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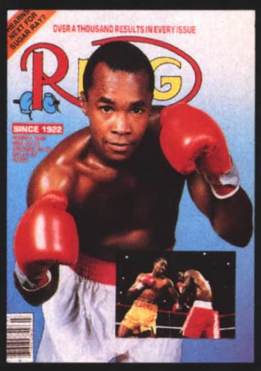

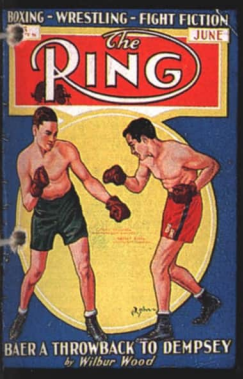

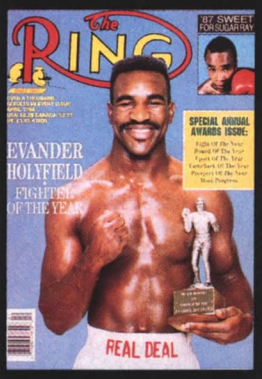

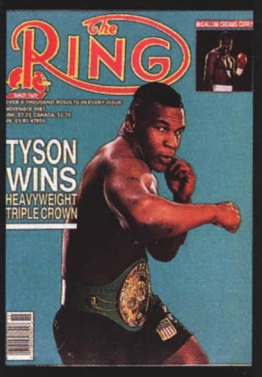

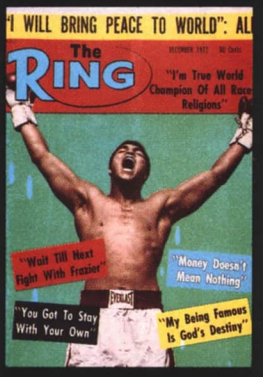

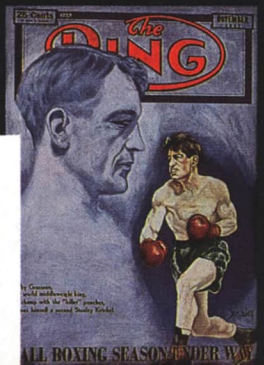

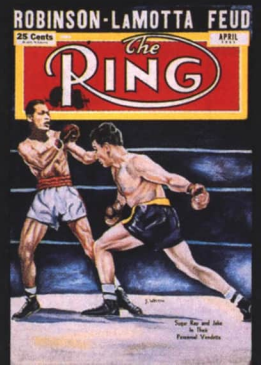

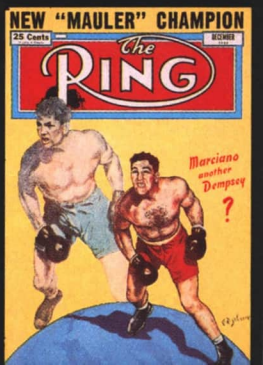

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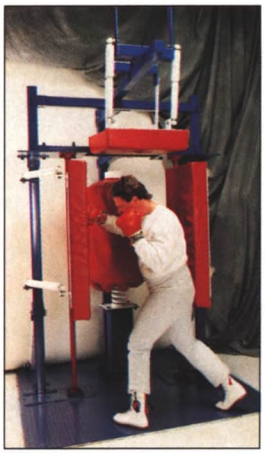

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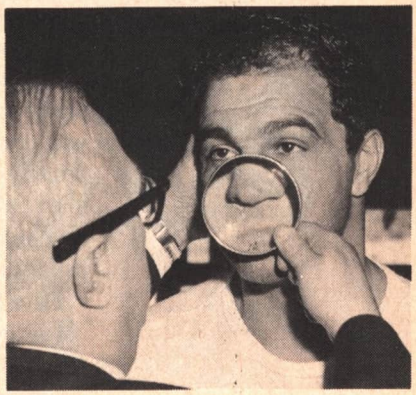

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Ringside

It was during an appearance on a radio talk show that I first realized I didn't qualify as a legitimate ring historian. After completing this issue, however, I can assure you that I've at least become a *Ring* historian.

Several years ago, Dave Sims, then the host of a sports talk show on WNBC in New York, asked me to help him put together a panel for a night of boxing trivia. I phoned fight judge Harold Lederman and Herb Goldman, then an editor at *The Ring*, and on the night of the show, the three of us answered callers' questions. Those who stumped us won prizes.

Harold and I were adequate, but Herb, who is among today's foremost historians, was unbeatable. It seemed there was nothing he didn't know. After a few questions and answers, his knowledge became almost comical.

(Caller: "Can any of you tell me what James J. Corbett was wearing on the morning he signed to fight John L. Sullivan?" Harold: "Well . . . " Steve: "Uh, gee . . . Herb, why don't you take this one." Herb: "Okay, Steve, I will. Corbett wasn't feeling particularly well that morning, so he bundled up in a woolen shirt and two sweaters, one of which was a cardigan. He wore maroon argyle socks and black leather shoes. And by the way, he didn't sign to fight Sullivan in the morning. When the ink hit the paper, it was half-past 12 in the afternoon.")

Dave Sims didn't give away too many prizes that night.

I've always been interested in boxing history, but since becoming editor of *The Ring* in 1989, I've come to appreciate it more than ever before. In doing research for the section celebrating *The Ring's* 70th birthday, I thumbed through every single issue of the magazine. (For the record, this is number 829). After a week of taking notes and recording an all-time list of *Ring* cover subjects (see page 76), I thought of Dan M. Daniel as an uncle, and the faces of Jack Dempsey and Joe Louis had become as familiar as those of my staff. I'm now sure not only of the difference between Nat Fleischer and Nat Loubet, but Tom Sharkey and Jack Sharkey, too. The history of *The Ring,* I learned, mirrors the history of boxing.

Over the past 70 years, there have been 36 world heavyweight champions, but only five editors of *The Ring*. I appreciate my position, and eagerly absorb daily doses of the tradition that it brings. At the same time, I realize that Satchel Paige was right when he said it's dangerous to look behind you. A new deadline is never more than four weeks away, and in 2022, when the editor of *The Ring* begins his research for the magazine's 100th anniversary issue, he'll be examining *my* work.

Seventy is a lot of years, and 829 is a lot of magazines. Even so, I don't think I'm quite ready to go one on one with Herb Goldman.

Steve Farhood
Editor-In-Chief

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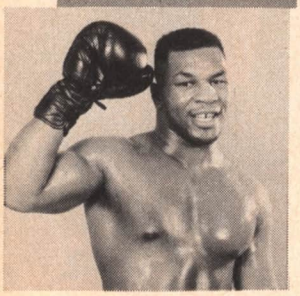
Come Out Writing

TALL STORY?

When watching Mike Tyson's fights, I've seen him listed as 5'10", 5'10½", and 5'11". In a Pepsi commercial, he was described as a "six-foot man of iron." I also read once that he was 5'9". What's the deal? Can you give us Tyson's true height?

EDWARD J. GONZALES
Stockton, CA

Editor's Note: Members of the HBO production staff have measured Tyson and insist he is 5'11½".



Tyson: A tall story?

JUDGING THE JUDGES

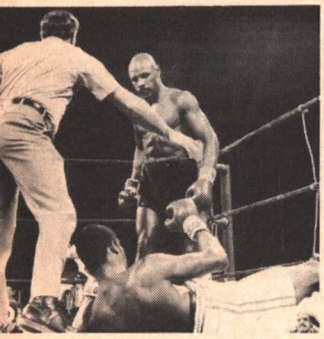
I enjoy "Battle Of The Legends," but two of your panelists for the Marcel Cerdan-Marvin Hagler matchup (October 1991) suffered from a severe conflict of interest.

Jake LaMotta only enhanced his own stature by saying that Cerdan, the man he beat for the title, could outpunch Hagler. We all know how great Hagler was, so in essence, LaMotta was insinuating that he was better.

George Kanter, who made a living promoting a mediocre Marcel Cerdan Jr., is indebted to the former champion and his legend.

Select impartial panelists and more than 90 percent would favor Hagler.

DAVID FANKUSHEN
Los Gatos, CA



Hagler: A winner vs. Cerdan?

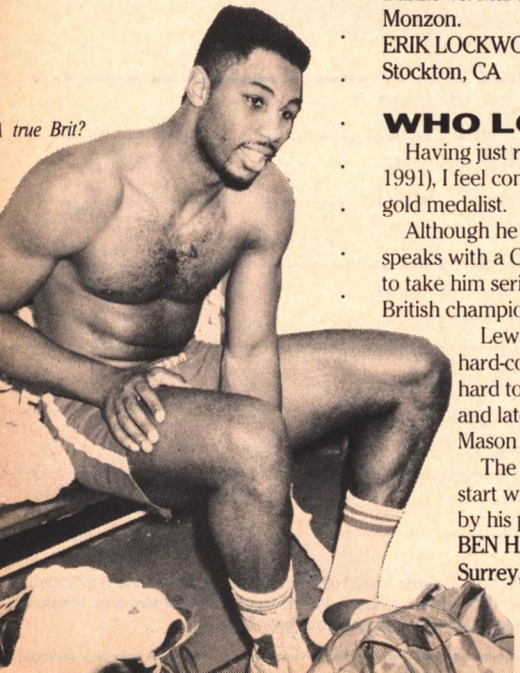
BATTLE OF THE LEGENDS

Here are some matchups for "Battle Of The Legends": Heavyweights: Jack Johnson vs. Jack Dempsey; Sonny Liston vs. Mike Tyson. Light heavyweights: Ezzard Charles vs. Michael Spinks. Middleweights: Mickey Walker vs. Tony Zale; Hurricane Carter vs. John Mugabi. Welterweights: Sugar Ray Robinson vs. Sugar Ray Leonard. Lightweights: Roberto Duran vs. Julio Cesar Chavez; Benny Leonard vs. Roberto Duran. Featherweights: Willie Pep vs. Alexis Arguello.

ANDREW KING
Davis, CA

Suggested matchups for "Battle Of The Legends": Heavyweights: Jack Johnson vs. Rocky Marciano. Light heavyweights: Bob Fitzsimmons vs. Archie Moore. Middleweights: Carmen Basilio vs. Marvin Hagler; Stanley Ketchel vs. Sugar Ray Robinson; Jake LaMotta vs. Carlos Monzon.

ERIK LOCKWOOD
Stockton, CA



true Brit?

WHO LOVES LENNOX?

Having just read Joseph C. Tintle's article, "Lennox Lewis' First Tough Fight" (November 1991), I feel compelled to attempt to explain why we British find it hard to accept the Olympic gold medalist.

Although he lived in Britain until the age of 12, Lewis learned his boxing in Canada. He speaks with a Canadian accent and expresses the outlook of that country. It is therefore hard to take him seriously when he drapes himself in the Union Jack and professes to be the British champion.

Lewis' Olympic victory over Riddick Bowe was only witnessed in this country by hard-core boxing fans. The majority was not aware of his link to our nation. We find it hard to believe that he could have dedicated himself 100 percent to the Canadian team and later claimed to have been a true Brit. The fact that Lewis beat the popular Gary Mason and has consistently badmouthed Frank Bruno has not helped his cause.

The simple fact is that, similarly to Czech-born Joe Bugner, Lewis has had a bad start with the British public. He may never meet with the popular acclaim enjoyed by his predecessors, Bruno and Henry Cooper.

BEN HARMSWORTH
Surrey, England ■

February 1992 Volume 71, No. 2

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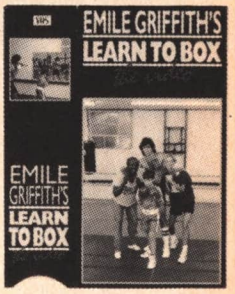

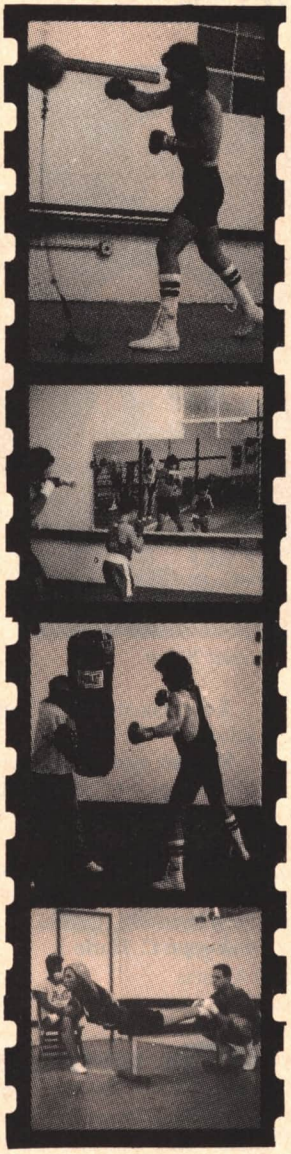

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Round One

Michael Watson

RING TRAGEDIES

As we went to press, super middleweight Michael Watson was on life-support in a London hospital, and bantamweight Fernie Morales remained in critical but stable condition in Indio, California. Both fighters underwent brain surgery following title fight losses in September.

Watson had a blood clot removed from his brain at St. Bartholomew's Hospital after his 12th-round stoppage by countryman Chris Eubank. He required additional surgery when his condition further deteriorated.

Early in round 12, Watson was ahead on points when cornered by Eubank. *(See the fight report on page 94.)* Referee Roy Francis stopped the fight, and Watson collapsed moments later.

"At this stage, it is very difficult to say what will be the outcome of this treatment," said neurosurgeon Peter Hamlyn.

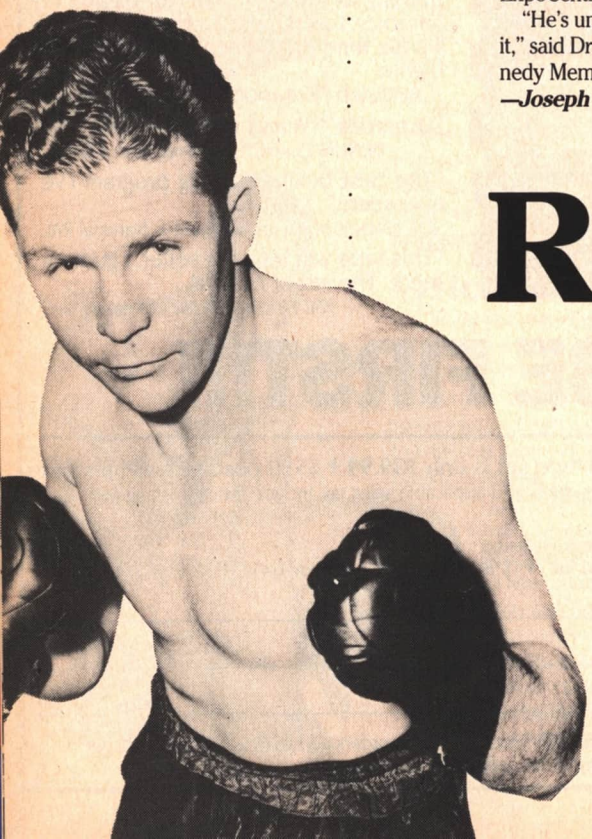
X-rays taken nine days after the fight revealed that a swelling in Watson's brain had yet to subside.

Morales, meanwhile, was knocked down in the second and 12th rounds of his battle against IBF champion Orlando Canizales. The Texan complained of nausea after losing the decision. He fainted 90 minutes after the conclusion of the bout, as he was leaving the Desert ExpoCentre.

"He's unconscious, he is in critical condition, but I think he has a fair chance to come out of it," said Dr. Ali Tahmouresie, who performed surgery to remove a blood clot at John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital.

—Joseph C. Tintle

Freddie "Red" Cochrane



REMEMBERING RED

Freddie "Red" Cochrane may be a memory to most, but not everyone has forgotten the former world welterweight champion, who lies ill at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Lyons, New Jersey.

Hospital officials would not reveal the 76-year-old Cochrane's condition, but a spokesperson acknowledged that he wasn't "competent" to discuss his health.

Max Rabinowitz, who had been the vice president of the New Jersey Boxing Hall of Fame, had visited the ailing fighter once a month for several years until his death in April. According to Rabinowitz' wife, Claire, her husband made his monthly visits "to show [the boxing community] didn't forget one of its own."

The picture Rabinowitz painted of Cochrane was that of a man unaware of his surroundings and unable to communicate. "[Red] didn't even know you were in the room," Rabinowitz once said.

Although Cochrane's record was only 73-36-8 (27), he remains the longest-reigning 147-pound champion in history, having held the title for more than 4½ years. But there's a catch: After beating Fritzie Zivic for the title in July 1941, Cochrane went on to serve in World War II. Upon his discharge, he resumed fighting. In his first title defense, in February 1946, he was knocked out in four rounds by Marty Servo.

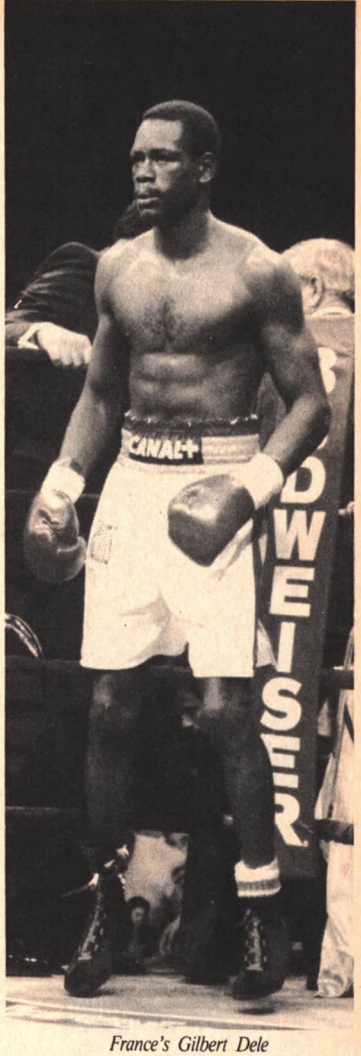
—Alan Shelton

AN ANTHEM ANATHEMA

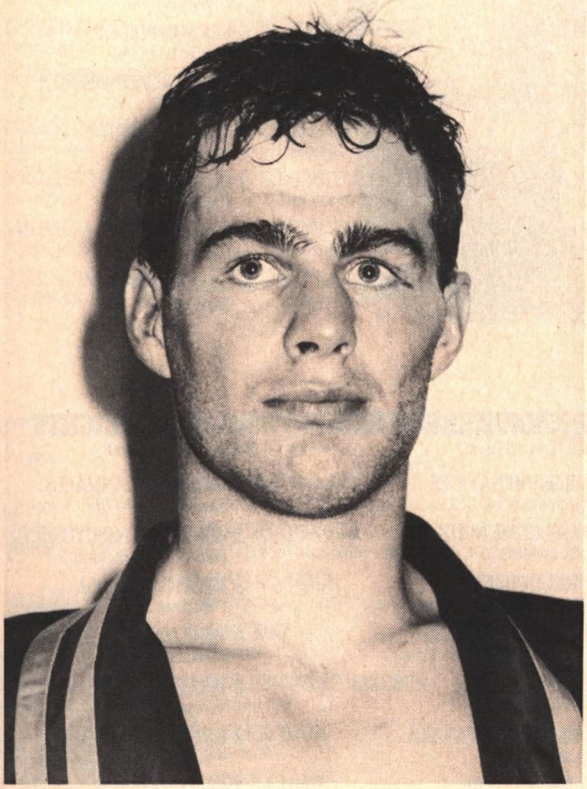
Oops: Prior to the Vinny Paziena-Gilbert Dele junior middleweight title fight at the Providence Civic Center, France's Dele was greeted by the playing of "Deutschland Uber Alles," the *German* national anthem, instead of "La Marseillaise," the *French* national anthem.

TEDDY ON BOXING

Patrick J. Walsh, an at-large candidate for City Council in Boston, is calling for establishment of boxing clubs in low-income neighborhoods to help reduce youth violence, according to *The Boston Globe*. The inspiration for his idea? President Theodore Roosevelt, who wrote, "When I was Police Commissioner of New York City, I found that the establishment of a boxing club in a tough neighborhood always tended to do away with knifing and gun-fighting among the young fellows who would otherwise have been in murderous gangs. Many of those young fellows were not natural criminals at all, but they had to have some outlet for their activities."



France's Gilbert Dele



Fighter/actor Glenn McCrory

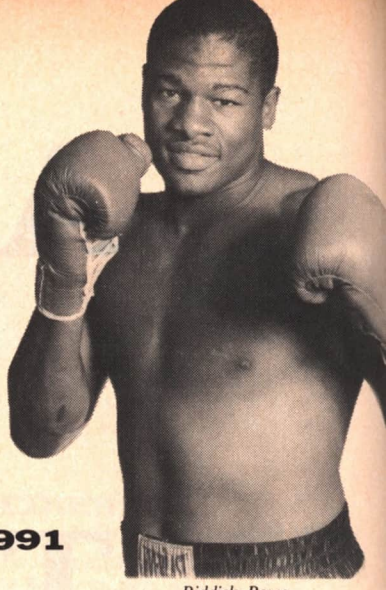
OUTSIDE THE ROPES

Former top-rated heavyweight contender Lou Nova died in September at the age of 76. In 1941, Nova was knocked out by heavyweight champion Joe Louis. After leaving the ring with a record of 48-9-6 (31), he became a film and stage actor. A full-length story on Nova will appear in our next issue . . . Boxing is scheduled to return to Madison Square Garden in early-1992, when Tracy Patterson, the number-one WBC super bantamweight contender, faces champion Daniel Zaragoza in the 6,000-seat Paramount, formerly known as the Felt Forum. The last Felt Forum card was in August 1989 . . . Former IBF cruiserweight champion Glenn McCrory has retired and plans to pursue an acting career. If he becomes the next Lord Laurence Olivier, he can thank heavyweight Lennox Lewis for prompting his career change; in September, Lewis kayoed McCrory in two rounds . . . Bobby Chacon Jr., the son of former WBC super featherweight champion Bobby Chacon, was shot and killed during a gang-related shootout in Los Angeles.

THE PUNCHLINE

When Michael Buffer completed his celebrity introductions before the Whitaker-Paez title fight in Reno, *Sports Illustrated's* Pat Putnam shouted from his press seat that Joe DiMaggio had been overlooked. Buffer promptly launched into an extended intro. Afterward, Putnam told him that it was all a joke. DiMag, he admitted, wasn't in attendance. ■

The Ring Ratings



Riddick Bowe

For Period Ended October 15, 1991

How Our Ratings Are Compiled

In each division, fighters are ranked according to their abilities and accomplishments.

Being champion does not necessarily mean a fighter will be rated at the top of his weight class.

These ratings reflect how the best fighters in the world rate against one another.

Ratings By *The Ring* Editors
Records Compiled By Eric Armit

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 160 pounds

1 MIKE McCALLUM
Brooklyn, NY *42-1 (WBA Champ)*

2 JAMES TONEY
Ann Arbor, MI *28-0-1 (IBF Champ)*

3 JULIAN JACKSON
Virgin Islands *42-1 (WBC Champ)*

4 SUMBU KALAMBAY
Italy *51-5-1*

5 STEVE COLLINS
Brockton, MA *20-1*

6 NIGEL BENN
England *29-2*

7 REGGIE JOHNSON
Houston, TX *29-2-1*

8 ROY JONES
Pensacola, FL *15-0*

9 LAMAR PARKS
Greeneville, SC *17-0*

10 SEGUNDO MERCADO
Puerto Rico *11-1*

Jorge Castro

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 154 pounds

1 TERRY NORRIS
Mission Valley, CA *29-3 (WBC Champ)*

2 GIANFRANCO ROSI
Italy *52-3 (IBF Champ)*

3 VINNY PAZIENZA
Cranston, RI *31-5 (WBA Champ)*

4 JOHN DAVID JACKSON
Tucson, AZ *24-0*

5 VERNON PHILLIPS
New York, NY *14-5*

6 JULIO CESAR VASQUEZ
Argentina *32-1*

7 JORGE CASTRO
Argentina *61-2-2*

8 GILBERT DELE
France *29-1-1*

9 JORGE VACA
Mexico *44-8-1*

10 AARON DAVIS
Bronx, NY *32-1*

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 126 pounds

1 MARCOS VILLASANA
Mexico *54-7-2 (WBC Champ)*

2 MANUEL MEDINA
Mexico *39-3 (IBF Champ)*

3 YUNG KYUN PARK
South Korea *20-1-1 (WBA Champ)*

4 TROY DORSEY
Mansfield, TX *13-4-4*

5 MAURIZIO STECCA
Italy *43-1*

6 TOM JOHNSON
Detroit, MI *26-1-1*

7 JOSE MARTINEZ
Hanford, CA *16-4-1*

8 ELOY ROJAS
Venezuela *22-1*

9 KEVIN KELLEY
Flushing, NY *23-0*

10 RICARDO CEPEDA
Bronx, NY *23-1-1*

JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 122 pounds

1 JESSE BENAVIDES
Corpus Christi, TX *35-1*

2 WELCOME NCITA
South Africa *30-0 (IBF Champ)*

3 RAUL PEREZ
Mexico *49-2-2 (WBA Champ)*

4 DANIEL ZARAGOZA
Mexico *43-5-1 (WBC Champ)*

5 LUIS MENDOZA
Colombia *32-3-2*

6 KIYOSHI HATANAKA
Japan *22-2-1*

7 JESUS SALUD
San Diego, CA *39-4*

8 PEDRO DECIMA
Argentina *26-3*

9 TRACY PATTERSON
New Paltz, NY *42-2*

10 JEMAL HINTON
District Heights, MD *20-0*

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 118 pounds

1 ORLANDO CANIZALES
Laredo, TX *29-1-1 (IBF Champ)*

2 JOICHIRO TATSUYOSHI
Japan *7-0-1 (WBC Champ)*

3 LUISITO ESPINOSA
Philippines *25-5 (WBA Champ)*

4 PEPILLO VALDEZ
Mexico *39-3-1*

5 ISRAEL CONTRERAS
Venezuela *33-2-1*

6 GREG RICHARDSON
Youngstown, OH *29-4*

7 DUKE McKENZIE
England *30-2*

8 JUNIOR JONES
Brooklyn, NY *19-0*

9 YONG HOON LEE
South Korea *19-0*

10 THIERRY JACOB
France *30-3*

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight Unlimited

1 **EVANDER HOLYFIELD**
Atlanta, GA *25-0 (World Champ)*

2 **MIKE TYSON**
Catskill, NY *41-1*

3 **RIDDICK BOWE**
Brooklyn, NY *26-0*

4 **RAZOR RUDDOCK**
Canada *25-3-1*

5 **TIM WITHERSPOON**
Philadelphia, PA *35-3*

6 **RAY MERCER**
Newark, NJ *17-0*

7 **GEORGE FOREMAN**
Marshall, TX *69-3*

8 **TONY TUCKER**
Beverly Hills, CA *41-1*

9 **LENNOX LEWIS**
England *17-0*

10 **MICHAEL MOORER**
Detroit, MI *25-0*

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 195 pounds

1 **JEFF LAMPKIN**
Youngstown, OH *35-13-1*

2 **BOBBY CZYZ**
Montgomery, NJ *39-5 (WBA Champ)*

3 **JAMES WARRING**
Miami, FL *12-1 (IBF Champ)*

4 **ANACLET WAMBA**
France *32-2 (WBC Champ)*

5 **TAOUFIK BELBOULI**
France *29-1-1*

6 **ROBERT DANIELS**
Miami, FL *17-2-1*

7 **ALFRED COLE**
Newark, NJ *19-1*

8 **ORLIN NORRIS**
Campo, CA *30-3*

9 **JOHNNY NELSON**
England *21-5-1*

10 **DWIGHT QAWI**
Lindenwold, NJ *36-8-1*

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 175 pounds

1 **THOMAS HEARNS**
Detroit, MI *50-3-1 (WBA Champ)*

2 **PRINCE CHARLES WILLIAMS**
Mansfield, OH *31-4-2 (IBF Champ)*

3 **VIRGIL HILL**
Las Vegas, NV *30-1*

4 **JEFF HARDING**
Australia *21-1 (WBC Champ)*

5 **DENNIS ANDRIES**
Detroit, MI *39-9-2*

6 **FRANK TATE**
Houston, TX *29-2*

7 **GRACIANO ROCCHIGIANI**
Germany *32-0*

8 **ANDREW MAYNARD**
Laurel, MD *17-1*

9 **ANTHONY HEMBRICK**
Beckley, WV *21-1-1*

10 **LEEONZER BARBER**
Detroit, MI *13-1*

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 168 pounds

1 **VICTOR CORDOBA**
N. Ireland *15-2 (WBA Champ)*

2 **MICHAEL NUNN**
Davenport, IA *36-1*

3 **DARRIN VAN HORN**
Lexington, KY *47-2 (IBF Champ)*

4 **CHRIS EUBANK**
England *29-0*

5 **CHRISTOPHE TIOZZO**
France *29-1*

6 **LINDELL HOLMES**
Detroit, MI *44-6-1*

7 **MAURO GALVANO**
Italy *17-1-2 (WBC Champ)*

8 **TONY THORNTON**
Glassboro, NJ *28-4-1*

9 **MERQUI SOSA**
New York, NY *19-2*

10 **RANDALL YONKER**
Mobile, AL *20-1*

WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 147 pounds

1 **MELDRICK TAYLOR**
Cheltenham, PA *28-1-1 (WBA Champ)*

2 **SIMON BROWN**
Germantown, MD *34-1 (WBC Champ)*

3 **MAURICE BLOCKER**
Germantown, MD *33-2 (IBF Champ)*

4 **BUDDY McGIRT**
Brentwood, NY *54-2-1*

5 **GENARO LEON**
Mexico *38-2-2*

6 **GLENWOOD BROWN**
Plainfield, NJ *34-2*

7 **CRISANTO ESPANA**
N. Ireland *24-0*

8 **HIROYUKI YOSHINO**
Japan *19-3-1*

9 **SANTOS CARDONA**
Puerto Rico *22-3*

10 **DAVID GONZALEZ**
San Jose, CA *27-1-1*

JR. WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 140 pounds

1 **JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ**
Mexico *76-0 (WBC Champ)*

2 **ROGER MAYWEATHER**
Las Vegas, NV *40-6*

3 **EDWIN ROSARIO**
Puerto Rico *37-4 (WBA Champ)*

4 **TERRENCE ALLI**
Linden, NJ *47-7-2*

5 **CHARLES MURRAY**
Newark, NJ *22-1*

6 **HECTOR CAMACHO**
Big Cypress, FL *39-1*

7 **GREG HAUGEN**
Henderson, NV *28-4-1*

8 **LORETO GARZA**
Sacramento, CA *28-2-1*

9 **JUAN COGGI**
Argentina *51-2-2*

10 **PAT BARRETT**
England *30-1-1*

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 135 pounds

1 **PERNELL WHITAKER**
Norfolk, VA *27-1 (World Champ)*

2 **FREDDIE PENDLETON**
Miami, FL *31-17-3*

3 **JORGE PAEZ**
Mexico *39-4-4*

4 **TRACY SPANN**
Plainfield, NJ *26-1*

5 **DARRYLL TYSON**
Washington, D.C. *35-4*

6 **ANTHONY JONES**
Detroit, MI *30-3-1*

7 **JUAN NAZARIO**
Puerto Rico *22-3*

8 **POLI DIAZ**
Spain *31-1*

9 **SHARMBA MITCHELL**
Takoma Park, MD *24-0*

10 **CHIL SUNG CHUN**
South Korea *17-1*

JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 130 pounds

1 **JEFF FENECH**
Australia *26-0-1*

2 **AZUMAH NELSON**
Ghana *33-2-1 (WBC Champ)*

3 **BRIAN MITCHELL**
South Africa *43-1-3 (IBF Champ)*

4 **TONY LOPEZ**
Sacramento, CA *37-3-1*

5 **JOEY GAMACHE**
Lewiston, ME *25-0 (WBA Champ)*

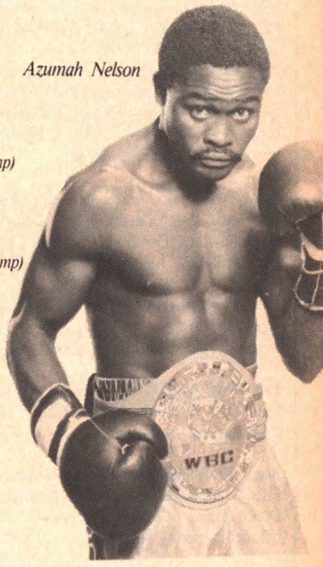
6 **JOHN-JOHN MOLINA**
Puerto Rico *24-3*

7 **GENARO HERNANDEZ**
Los Angeles, CA *23-0*

8 **DANIEL LONDAS**
France *55-7-1*

9 **EUGENE SPEED**
Palmer Park, MD *20-0*

10 **REGILIO TUUR**
Whitestone, NY *23-1-1*



Azumah Nelson

Junior Jones

JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 115 pounds

1 **KHAOSAI GALAXY**
Thailand *48-1 (WBA Champ)*

2 **ROBERT QUIROGA**
San Antonio, TX *18-0 (IBF Champ)*

3 **SUNG KIL MOON**
South Korea *15-1 (WBC Champ)*

4 **JOSE RUIZ**
Puerto Rico *22-2*

5 **THALERNSAK SITHBAOBEY**
Thailand *36-2*

6 **NANA KONADU**
Ghana *19-2-1*

7 **JOHNNY TAPIA**
Albuquerque, NM *21-0-1*

8 **ARMANDO CASTRO**
Mexico *42-8-1*

9 **VINCENZO BELCASTRO**
Italy *21-5-3*

10 **DAVID GRIMAN**
Venezuela *11-1*

FLYWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 112 pounds

1 **MUANGCHAI KITTIKASEM**
Thailand *15-1 (WBC Champ)*

2 **DAVE McAULEY**
Ireland *18-2-2 (IBF Champ)*

3 **YONG KANG KIM**
South Korea *24-3 (WBA Champ)*

4 **RODOLFO BLANCO**
Colombia *26-6-1*

5 **SOT CHITALADA**
Thailand *25-3-1*

6 **JUNG KOO CHANG**
South Korea *38-4*

7 **YURI ARBACHAKOV**
Soviet Union *8-0*

8 **YUN UN CHIN**
South Korea *25-0*

9 **YSAIAS ZAMUDIO**
Blythe, CA *24-3-1*

10 **SCOTTY OLSON**
Las Vegas, NV *18-0*

JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 108 pounds

1 **MYUNG WOO YUH**
South Korea *36-0 (WBA Champ)*

2 **MICHAEL CARBAJAL**
Phoenix, AZ *20-0 (IBF Champ)*

3 **HUMBERTO GONZALEZ**
Mexico *31-1 (WBC Champ)*

4 **MELCHOR COB CASTRO**
Mexico *29-3-3*

5 **HIROKI IOKA**
Japan *18-2-1*

6 **ROLANDO PASCUA**
Philippines *26-6*

7 **DOMINGO SOSA**
Dominican Republic *16-0*

8 **LEON SALAZAR**
Panama *15-3-1*

9 **JOSE DeJESUS**
Puerto Rico *26-2-1*

10 **JERRY PENALOSA**
Philippines *12-0-1*

POUND FOR POUND
Boxing's 10 Best Fighters, Pound For Pound

1 **JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ**
Junior Welterweight

2 **PERNELL WHITAKER**
Lightweight

3 **MELDRICK TAYLOR**
Welterweight

4 **EVANDER HOLYFIELD**
Heavyweight

5 **MIKE TYSON**
Heavyweight

6 **MYUNG WOO YUH**
Light Flyweight

7 **JEFF FENECH**
Junior Lightweight

8 **ORLANDO CANIZALES**
Bantamweight

9 **KHAOSAI GALAXY**
Junior Bantamweight

10 **SIMON BROWN**
Welterweight

The RING '60s & '70s ISSUES

ONLY $10 EACH

Oct. 1961: Boxing Series—Phony? Plus: Gene Fullmer, famous fights recalled, Cassius Clay, Harry Greb, Dick Tiger, Floyd Patterson.

May 1963: Las Vegas—The New Capital. Plus: Jose Torres, Gus Lesnevich, Floyd Patterson, Sonny Liston, Cassius Clay, Luis Rodriguez, Tiger-Fullmer.

July 1963: Carlos Ortiz: "Vacate My Title?" Plus: Gene Fullmer, the flaw in Cassius Clay, Liston-Patterson II prefight, Paul Pender, Willie Pastrano.

Aug. 1963: Three Big Championship Fights (Pastrano-Johnson, Griffith-Rodriguez, Perkins-Cruz). Plus: Mike Jacobs, sour decisions, Rubin Carter, Liston-Patterson II preview, Jack Root.

Jan. 1964: Joey Archer: Boxing's Greatest Hero. Plus: Cassius Clay, Dempsey vs. Schmeling, Dempsey vs. Baer, Cleveland Williams, Ingemar Johansson.

June 1964: Joey Giardello: "I'm Young Again!" Plus: Cassius Clay, Floyd Patterson, Willie Pastrano, Carlos Ortiz.

July 1964: Will Bobo Olson Win Title? Plus: Polo Grounds, Cassius Clay, Willie Pastrano, Sugar Ramos.

Aug. 1964: Who Is Floyd Robertson? Plus: Max Schmeling, Griffith-Rodriguez, Dick Tiger, Olympic preview, Joey Giardello, Sonny Liston.

Sept. 1964: The Perils Of Patterson! Plus: Cleveland Williams, Laszlo Papp, Jose Stable, Carlos Ortiz.

Oct. 1964: Liston Couldn't Be Sidetracked. Plus: TV boxing, Dick Tiger, Persol-Olson, Jesus Pimental.

Feb. 1965: Where Do Our Heavies Stand Now? Plus: James J. Braddock, Emile Griffith, Jose Torres, Willie Pastrano, Oscar Bonavena, Eder Jofre.

April 1965: Clay Clamors For White Hopes. Plus: Jack Dempsey, Jess Willard, Patterson-Chuvalo, Carlos Hernandez, Tony Galento, Joe Louis.

July 1965: Jose Torres, Puerto Rico's New Hero. Plus: Clay-Liston II prefight, Gene Tunney, Joey Giardello, Bonavena-Folley, George Chuvalo.

Aug. 1965: What Really Happened At Lewiston? Plus: Dick Tiger, Doc Kearns, Laguna-Ortiz, Patterson-Herring.

Sept. 1965: Walcott: Clay Could Beat Dempsey! Plus: Ali-Liston II backlash, Henry Hank, Willie Pep, Nino Benvenuti.

Oct. 1965: Will $$$ Still Lure Wilt? Plus: Jose Torres, Floyd Patterson, Joe Frazier, four ring hopefuls, Billy Conn, Liston-Clay, Flash Elorde.

Nov. 1965: Giardello Title Tenure Over? Plus: History of middleweights, heavyweight situation, Johnny Persol, Luis Rodriguez, Mathis & Frazier's pro debuts.

Dec. 1965: Experts Pick Clay vs. Patterson. Plus: Jose Torres, Sonny Liston, Joey Archer, Oscar Bonavena, Vicente Saldivar.

Jan. 1966: Explosion!!! Four Title Fights!!! Plus: Dick Tiger, Cassius Clay, Ernie Terrell, George Chuvalo.

May 1966: Who Will Tame Dick Tiger? Clay-Terrell preview, James Norris, Emile Griffith, Vicente Saldivar.

Sept. 1966: France Claims Its First Welter Title. Plus: Ernie Terrell, Nino Benvenuti, U.S. vs. Britain.

Oct. 1966: How Did Mildenberger Get There? Plus: Clay-London, Clay draft appeal, Sonny Liston, Louis-Schmeling I, Griffith-Archer, Joe Frazier.

Jan. 1967: Is Time Running Out On Terrell? Plus: Torres-Tiger preview, long count mystery solved, Carlos Ortiz, Cassius Clay, Zora Folley, Johnny Persol.

March 1967: Why Isn't Clay Fighter Of The Year? Plus: Year-end issue, 2,500 fighters rated, Tiger-Torres, Clay-Terrell, Curtis Cokes.

April 1967: Death Stalks The Tiger. Plus: Cassius Clay, Emile Griffith, Mike Jacobs, Barney Ross, Joe Clark.

May 1967: Cassius Clay: "Louis Clobber Me? He Must Be Joking!" Plus: Frazier-Jones, Floyd Patterson, Carlos Ortiz, Frazier-Mathis preview, Nino Benvenuti.

June 1967: They're Talking Frazier Now!!! Plus: Ali-Folley, Joe Louis, Ismael Laguna, Clay-Ellis?, Joe Gans.

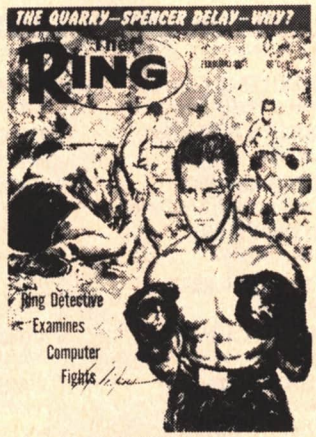
Aug. 1967: Karl Mildenberger: Germany's Second Schmeling? Plus: Nino Benvenuti, Foster-Cotton, Curtis Cokes, Tiger-Torres II, heavyweight analysis.

Sept. 1967: Nino Benvenuti: Italy's Greatest Ever? Plus: Sonny Liston, Primo Carnera dead, Clay's court battles, Vicente Saldivar, Yoshiaki Numata.

Oct. 1967: Frazier's Demolition Of Chuvalo Sparked Ice Bag Mystery. Plus: Ortiz-Ramos, Madison Square Garden tourney, Primo Carnera tribute.

Dec. 1967: Jack Dempsey Picks Next Heavyweight Champion. Plus: Griffith-Benvenuti II, Joe Frazier, Gans-McGovern controversy, Buster Mathis.

Jan. 1968: Corbett-Dempsey Computer Fight. Plus: Joe Frazier, Jerry Quarry, Jimmy Ellis, Thad Spencer, Vicente Saldivar retires.



FEBRUARY 1968

Feb. 1968: The Quarry-Spencer Delay—Why? Plus: Bob Foster, Buster Mathis, Rocky Marciano, Jimmy Ellis, Dick Tiger, all-time heavyweight tournament.

April 1968: Spectre Of Clay Haunts Heavy Situation (painting by LeRoy Neiman) Plus: Transcript of Clay trial, Rocky Marciano, Ingemar Johansson, Bob Foster, Jerry Quarry.

May 1968: Quarry Revives White Hope Cry!!! Plus: Frazier-Mathis, Jimmy Ellis, Joe Frazier, Dick Tiger, Bob Foster, Nino Benvenuti.

June 1968: Boone Kirkman: Heavyweight Threat. Plus: Ken Buchanan, Sonny Liston, Ernie Terrell, southpaws, Nino Benvenuti & Frank Sinatra.

Sept. 1968: Foster: "I'm The Best Fighter In The World." Plus: Joe Frazier, Jimmy Ellis, Jack Dempsey, Manuel Ramos, Ortiz-Cruz, heavyweight enigmas.

Oct. 1968: Olympics Beckon To Seekers Of Heavyweight Riches. Plus: Joe Frazier, Sonny Liston, Joe Louis, middleweights, Buster Mathis.

Nov. 1968: Are Today's Fighters Overpaid? Plus: Joey Archer, Emile Griffith, Sugar Ray Robinson, Fritzie Zivic.

Dec. 1968: Is World Boxing Association Crumbling? Plus: Ellis-Patterson, George Chuvalo, Kid Gavilan, Bob Foster.

Jan. 1969: Jack Johnson, Faker Or Loser? Plus: Jess Willard, Jack Johnson, all-time middleweight tournament, George Foreman, Dick Tiger, Doyle Baird.

Feb. 1969: How Good Is Olympic Champ Foreman? Plus: Floyd Patterson, Emile Griffith, Freddie Little, George Chuvalo, Hall of Fame (Baer, O'Brien, Hyer), Lou Brouillard.

March 1969: Nino Benvenuti: Fighter Of The Year (96-Page Special). Plus: Year-end awards, greatest in each division, Jess Willard's death, Frazier-Bonavena, Liston-Lincoln.

April 1969: Controversy Rages: Ketchel Or Robinson? Plus: Ken Buchanan, Joe Frazier, Jimmy Ellis, Bob Foster, computer fights, Buster Mathis.

May 1969: Frazier-Ellis—A Knockout For 1969! Plus: Mando Ramos, Bob Foster, cornermen, Marty Servo.

June 1969: Do Women Really Rule Boxing? Plus: Mando Ramos, trainers, Cassius Clay, Jerry Quarry, knockdown rule.

Oct. 1969: "How I'll Win" by Joe Frazier & Jimmy Ellis. Plus: What's next for Clay, Joe Bugner, Jack Dempsey, Joe Louis, Mac Foster, Vicente Saldivar.

Nov. 1969: How Much Has Aging Liston Left? Plus: Ruben Olivares, Tommy Walsh, Battling Levinsky, referees.

Feb. 1970: Computer Controversy—Clay Or Marciano? Plus: Nino Benvenuti, Dick Tiger, Mike Quarry, Carlos Ortiz, Foreman-Davila, Johnny Griffin.

June 1970: Stars Warn Frazier On His Future! Plus: Willie Pep, Bethea-Benvenuti, Ken Buchanan, Joe Frazier.

Nov. 1970: Is George Foreman For Real? Plus: Foreman-Chuvalo, British fighters, Randy Turpin, Tommy Farr.

Dec. 1970: Frazier's Title In Jeopardy? Plus: Patterson-Green, Bob Foster, Frazier-Foreman preview, Schmeling-Sharkey.

July 1971: Is George Foreman Next Champ? Plus: Frazier-Clay, Olivares-Castillo, 105 rounds of mayhem, Nicolino Loche, Foster-Anderson.

Aug. 1971: Nino's Kayo—U.S. Judge Tells All! Plus: Wilt Chamberlain, Monzon-Benvenuti II, Adolph Pruitt, Napoles-Backus II, Denny McNamee.

Nov. 1971: Gene Tunney Finally Talks: On Clay, Frazier, Dempsey! Plus: Jose Napoles, Al Silvani, Clay-Frazier II?, Cus D'Amato, Marcano-Kobayashi, Ezzard Charles, Ruben Navarro.

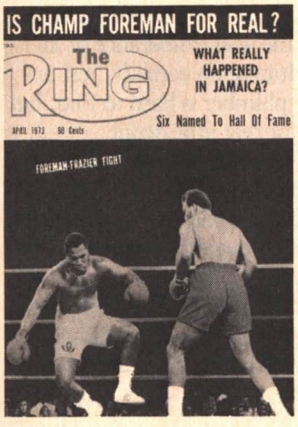
When Cassius Clay made his pro debut in 1960, *The Ring* was there. When "The Greatest" fought Joe Frazier for the heavyweight title in 1971, *The Ring* was there. Before Carlos Monzon, Jose Napoles, and Roberto Duran made names for themselves, the readers of *The Ring* were already talking about them. *The Ring* covered all the boxing events and personalities of the '60s and '70s as no other magazine could—and now a limited supply of back issues from those two decades are available for $10 each (including postage and handling).

Dec. 1971: Buchanan No. 1 In Fistic Cleverness? Plus: Monzon-Griffith I, Joe Bugner, Tommy Burns, Buchanan-Duran?, New York Boxing, Bodell-Bugner, "Halimi" Gutierrez.

April 1972: Is Frazier-Clay Rematch Off? Plus: Frazier-Daniels, Clay-Blin, Hall Of Fame (Graziano, Saddler, Berlenbach, Clark, Flowers), Armando Muniz, Pascual Perez, Griffith rates Monzon, fights that never came off, Tito Lectoure.

Jan. 1973: Big Heavyweight Shakeup! Plus: Lyle-Mathis, Bugner-Blin, Griffith-DeNucci, WBA, Jack Sharkey, the man who stopped Ali, Bennie Briscoe, Ray Lampkin, Kid Chocolate, Ernie Terrell, Walter Seeley, Chacon-Reyes.

Feb. 1973: Is Heavyweight Ron Lyle For Real? Plus: Ali-Foster, Duran-DeJesus I, Monzon-Briscoe II, Danny Lopez, Antonio Cervantes, Frazier-Foreman preview.



APRIL 1973

April 1973: Is Champ Foreman For Real? Plus: Foreman-Frazier I, Rudiger Schmidke, Hall Of Fame (Rosenbloom, Zivic, Jack, Papke, LaBarba), Sugar Ray Seales, Rodolfo Gonzalez.

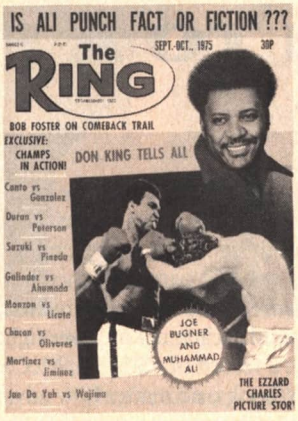
Aug. 1973: Joe Frazier: "I Will Beat Foreman Or Quit!" Plus: Ruben Olivares, Bobby Chacon, Carol Polis, Monzon-Griffith II, Vito Antuofermo, Herrera-Martinez, Lopez-Ordunez.

Oct. 1973: The Private Life Of George Foreman Plus: Carlos Monzon, WBA/WBC, Frazier-Bugner, George Foreman, DeJesus-Lampkin II.

Nov. 1973: World Title Fight Barrage! Plus: Foreman-Roman, Foster-Fourie, Joe Bugner, Gentleman Jim Corbett, Harry Greb, Anaya-Pinder, Henry Nissen, Muniz-Lopez.

Dec. 1974: Inside Story From Zaire! Plus: Foreman-Ali postponement, Bob Foster's retirement, Teofilo Stevenson, Chacon-Marcano, Roberto Duran, Jimmy Wilde & Barney Ross.

April 1975: Chuck Wepner Story: A Tale Out Of Fiction. Plus: Joe Louis, Redd Foxx, Hall of Fame (Curtis, Fullmer, Tiger, Klaus, Chaney), Alexis Arguello, Marvin Hagler, Chacon-Lopez, Ali-Foreman II?, Miguel Canto.



SEPT.-OCT.1975

Sept.-Oct. 1975: Is Ali Punch Fact Or Fiction? Plus: Don King, Ali-Bugner II, Monzon-Licata, Duran-Peterson, Olivares-Chacon, Galindez-Ahumada, Monroe-Hart, Ezzard Charles dies.

Aug. 1976: First American To Hold Word Title In Each Division. Plus: John L. Sullivan, Ali-Dunn, DeJesus-Suzuki, Zarate-Martinez, Foster's comeback, Duran-Mamby, Lopez-Gomez.

Sept. 1976: Ali-Norton: Special Heavyweight Issue! Plus: Vonzell Johnson, Palomino-Stracey, Galindez-Kates, Foreman-Frazier II, Arguello-Torres, Oscar Bonavena's death.

June 1977: What Now, George Foreman? Plus: Marvis Frazier, Carlos Palomino, Harold Weston, Antuofermo-Hart, Lyle-Bugner, Gazo-Castellini, Conteh-Hutchins, the comeback of George Chuvalo, Jimmy Young, Hagler-Monroe.

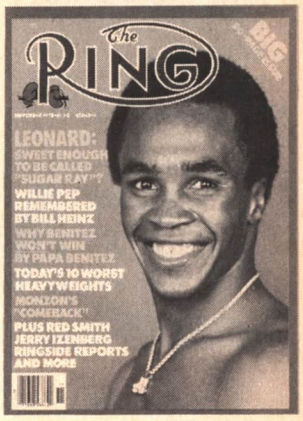
Sept. 1977: Norton-Young: Winner To Fight Ali! Plus: Sugar Ray Leonard, Michael and Leon Spinks, John Tate, Palomino-Green, Galindez-Kates II, Wilfredo Gomez, Irish-American fighters.

Feb. 1978: Exclusive Coverage: Norton vs. Young. Plus: Galindez-Gregory, Saensak Muangsurin, Leon Spinks, Matt Franklin, Valdes-Briscoe, heavyweight comebacks, Jerry Quarry, Ray Leonard, Carlos Zarate

July 1979: Foreman Exclusive: Preach Or Punch? Plus: Mike Weaver, Jack Sharkey, Galindez-Rossman II, Franklin-Johnson II, Jorge Lujan, Watt-Pitalua, Chacon-Limon II, Conteh-Burnett, Leonard-Viruet, federal commission?

Aug. 1979: Fights You Want To See! Plus: Leonard-Geraldo, Hearns-Weston, Ron Lyle, James Scott, Jeff Chandler, Davey Moore, Scandinavian fighters, big-fight previews.

Sept. 1979: Is Holmes Ali's Successor? Plus: Holmes-Weaver, Duran-Palomino, Lopez-Ayala, Coetzee-Spinks, Pintor-Zarate, Tate-Knoetze, Kim-Guisseppi, Lopez-Ayala, Gomez-Hernandez, German greats, Rocky II.



NOVEMBER 1979

Nov. 1979: Leonard: Sweet Enough To Be Called "Sugar Ray"? Plus: Wilfred Benitez, Willie Pep, 10 worst heavyweights, Monzon comback?, Cuevas-Shields, Leonard-Ranzany, Muhammad-Conteh, Hilmer Kenty.

Dec. 1979: What's Next For Larry Holmes? Plus: Holmes-Shavers II, Pipino Cuevas, Thomas Hearns, Arum & King, Leonard-Price, Gomez-Mendoza.

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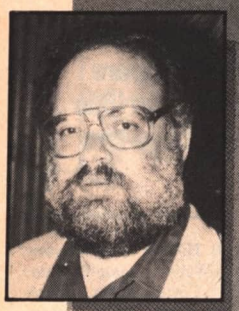


Katz Scan

By Michael Katz

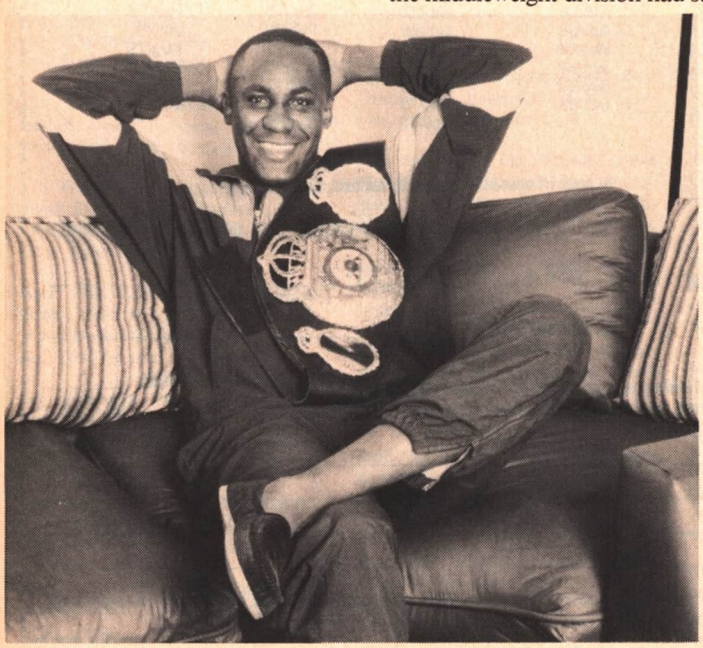
PRELIM TO A FLY

Mike McCallum shouldn't take it personal, even if he has become a fleck on a flyweight, and a junior flyweight at that. The distinguished heir to one of boxing's most glamorous titles has been made to suffer the ignominy of becoming a preliminary fighter for Michael Carbajal. McCallum, who is not that paranoid when he suspects everyone of plotting against him, probably thinks the world has conspired to ignore his considerable skills, preferring instead the charisma and excitement of lesser fighters.

At the age of 35, and with a record of 42-1 (34), McCallum remains one of the few living textbooks in boxing. Textbooks, no matter how advanced, will never bounce lurid novels from bestseller lists. McCallum has none of the flash of a Sugar Ray Leonard, none of the malevolent presence of a Mike Tyson, or any of the wild exuberance of an Aaron Pryor. Textbook jabs do not sell tickets. There is no drama, no comedy, just an honest worker plying his difficult trade. A good carpenter or plumber is hard to find, but his work doesn't draw crowds. McCallum needs a Carbajal for that little detail.

This is not to denigrate Carbajal, a competent competitor as well as a mini-media darling. But it says something about McCallum, and the entire middleweight division, that McCallum's December unification fight with IBF 160-pound titleholder James Toney has to be staged in the hometown of a junior flyweight. Obviously, nowhere on earth has McCallum a constituency as big as Carbajal enjoys in Phoenix.

It's not as if McCallum has been living in some rural backwater. For the last 10 years, while making more trips around the world than Vasco da Gama and usually fighting in the other guy's hometown, his main residence has been in Brooklyn. But Snyder Avenue isn't Hollywood Boulevard, and Ocean Parkway isn't Broadway. Somewhere, somehow, the middleweight division had strayed off the beaten path.

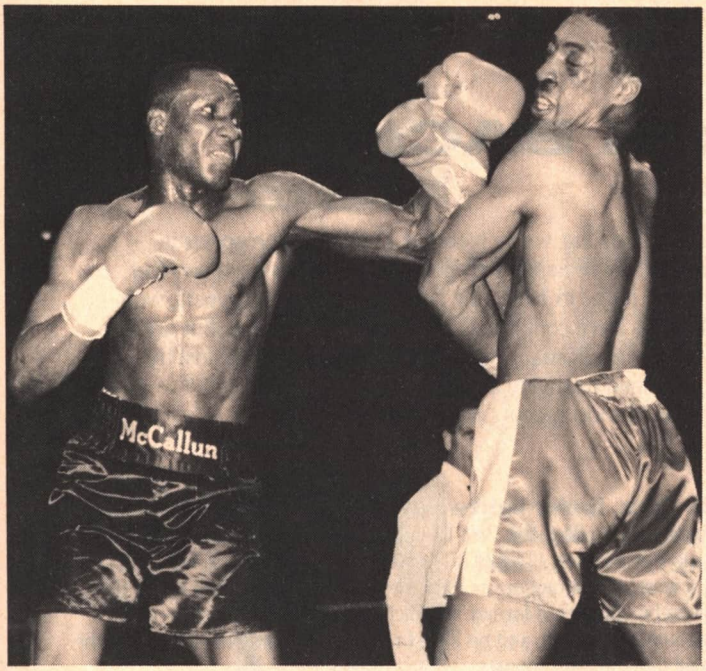


McCallum: An overnight sensation?

Stanley Ketchel, Harry Greb, Mickey Walker. They could rival their heavyweight contemporaries for popularity. They were American heroes of heavyweight proportion. And then came the middleweights' golden age: Tony Zale and Rocky Graziano, Sugar Ray Robinson and Jake LaMotta. This was the division of the Average Man. There was a foreign legion: Marcel Cerdan, Randy Turpin, Terry Downes. This was the rough-and-tumble division of Gene Fullmer and Carmen Basilio, Hurricane Carter and Joey Giardello. Wimps need not apply.

Even more recently, it has celebrated such stalwarts as Emile Griffith and Carlos Monzon and Marvelous Marvin Hagler. Until Mike Tyson enlivened the heavyweights, it could be said that the '80s belonged to the middleweights. And it would be slightly wrong. The decline had already set in.

Average Man was below average in a decade that seemed more designed to fill time and space on cable-television than to satisfy quality controllers. Until the stars of lighter divisions grew up, Hagler was alone on the stage. So-called contenders came off the cookie-cutter lines of ESPN and NBC. None could give Hagler a



McCallum blasts Michael Watson

fight, let alone a major opponent. But Roberto Duran, who spent the '70s as a 135-pounder, and Sugar Ray Leonard and Thomas Hearns, who began the '80s terrorizing welterweights, provided Hagler with the spotlight he deserved, even if it was during his exit from the stage.

And then came Nunn. Michael Nunn was no Frank "The Animal" Fletcher or Tony Sibson, nor was he a Hagler or Monzon. Just another blip in middleweight history, like Hugo Corro. Nunn was so boring, he put himself to sleep. Toney, who knocked him out, only got an assist.

It hasn't been exactly a Rip Van Winkle snooze, but maybe now the middleweights are stirring. Toney-McCallum may be a prelim in Phoenix, but at least it's part of a major pay-per-view show.

There would be some kind of poetic justice if this awakening provided McCallum some notoriety. But justice would be the last thing he would expect from a sport run by people he refers to as "thieves."

"They're all no good," says McCallum, speaking of painfully learned first-hand knowledge of most of boxing's leading promoters. "That's why I stay by myself. They have no morals, no scruples. They act and talk nice, but they are thieves. They don't care one damn for us."

He has been a butterfly, flitting from Madison Square Garden to the Duvas to Arum to King and back again. It means no promoter has really been in his corner long enough to make him famous, though going steady with one promoter doesn't necessarily lead to happiness.

McCallum remembers Don King, but wishes he didn't. "He cut my purse when I fought Dave Braxton," he says. "It went from $200,000 to $150,000 to half that. I think I wound up with $65,000."

He remembers the Duvas being "all over me" when he was undefeated. He says they literally deserted him when he suffered his only loss, on points to Sumbu Kalambay in 1988. He had to catch a bus back to the hotel.

He remembers Emanuel Steward, his former trainer and manager. Back when McCallum was a junior middleweight, he was chasing the two champions—Kronk teammate Hearns and Duran. Steward, he says, wouldn't get him a fight vs. either, saving Duran for Hearns' consumption.

The aficionados have known about McCallum for a long while. Not so the general sports public, though he has rubbed elbows and swapped punches with the rich and famous. It was Hearns, in gym sessions, who gave him his nickname of "The Body Snatcher." He has fought, and beaten, such stalwarts as Donald Curry, Milton McCrory, Ayub Kalule, Julian Jackson, Kalambay, Herol Graham, Steve Collins, and Michael Watson. He's been around since 1981, turning pro not in his native Jamaica, but in Las Vegas. He bounced from there to Florida and then to New York. In 1982, Ira Becker said McCallum was the most talented fighter he had in his gym. His gym was named Gleason's, and it was home to then-undefeated heavyweight contender Gerry Cooney and junior welterweight champion Saoul Mamby.

McCallum has never needed anyone to tell him how good he is. He has no big complaints. He says he's "set, especially in Jamaica; there I'm a rich man." That's where he'll spend his retirement. But he's not ready to quit, not when he might be ready to become an overnight sensation. A victory over Toney, then maybe a rematch with Jackson (McCallum is the only fighter to defeat the WBC 160-pound king), and then maybe the former WBA junior middleweight champion will try to join Leonard, Hearns, and Duran as the only fighters to win titles in four weight classes. McCallum would be a cinch at 168 pounds and would love to get Hearns at 175.

Naturally, he would be rich and famous then, and no longer a middleweight who has to play prelim to a junior fly. ■

New Faces

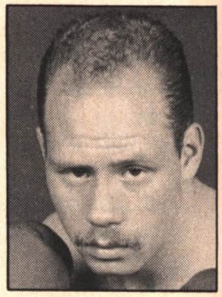
By Ed Maloney

A LOOK BACK

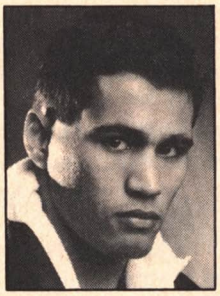
In the 12 previous issues of *The Ring*, we've featured 12 different prospects in "New Faces." So far, at least, we're happy to report that there has been no *Ring* jinx. After appearing on our pages in 1991, one fighter, Joichiro Tatsuyoshi, won a world title, and most others have continued on the path toward one. But not *all* of our prospects have fared well. Bomani Parker and Eddie Cook have lost by kayo, and a few have remained relatively inactive.

Here's an update on our 12 most recent "New Faces."

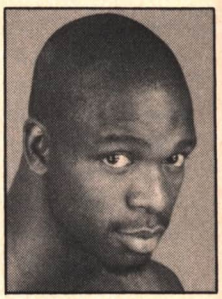
Regilio Tuur, junior lightweight (February 1991 issue): Since appearing in *The Ring*, the 1988 Olympian from Holland has enjoyed slow but steady success, winning all six of his fights. If Tuur continues to win, he'll be fighting for a world title sometime in 1992. He survived his toughest test in the summer, when he outpointed former world champion Jose Sanabria over 10 demanding rounds. That win, and his 22-1-1 record, have catapulted him into the rankings of all three organizations.



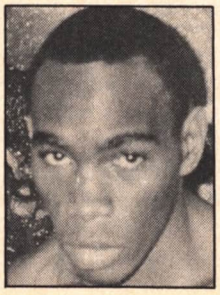
Scotty Olson, flyweight (March 1991 issue): The Canadian fireplug has remained active, winning all eight of his fights despite several rocky moments. He is now rated by the WBA (number 10) and the IBF (number nine). Olson has exhibited a shaky chin, but promoter Bob Arum remains excited about his future. As we went to press, Olson, 19-0 (15), was scheduled to challenge USBA champion Pedro Feliciano in December. If he wins, a showdown with IBF junior flyweight champion Michael Carbajal is slated for early-1992.



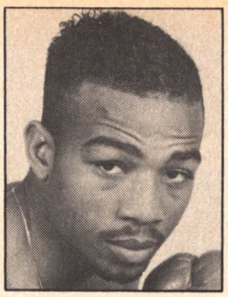
Jesse James Leija, featherweight (April 1991 issue): After fighting seven times each in 1989 and 1990, Leija, 19-0-1 (11), has kept such a low profile, you'd think he was the real Jesse James hiding out after a bank robbery. Following a draw with Pee Wee Parker in October 1990, Leija went 3-0 in 1991 and is rated fifth by the IBF.



Bomani Parker, light heavyweight (May 1991 issue): After scoring a first-round kayo in February, Parker, 12-1 (8), suffered his first loss, at the hands of Victor Potekin in March. Potekin jabbed Parker in the eye, hampering his vision, and the bout was stopped in the first round. Parker was scheduled to fight veteran Ramzi Hassan in August, but Hassan pulled out due to a death in his family. Parker's career remains in limbo.



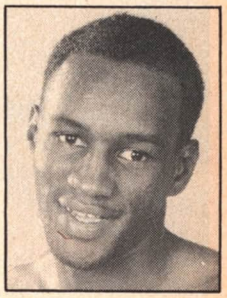
David Kamau, junior welterweight (June 1991 issue): The 5'11" Kamau, 14-0 (12), has become a good counterpuncher, and he uses his physical advantages well. Thus far, the native Kenyan has passed every test. "He is constantly improving," says Great Western Forum boxing publicist John Beyrooty. "He has rid himself of tendencies that many foreign fighters have when they come over." Kamau started fighting 10-rounders at the beginning of '91. In April, he won the California State 140-pound title with a two-round stoppage of Martin Quiroz. In his last fight, he stopped Will Hernandez in the fourth round.



Eddie Cook, bantamweight (July 1991 issue): Cook's last fight, against Dio Andujar in September, was a disaster. Cook, 15-1 (13), was nailed on the ear with a left hook in the first round and never recovered his equilibrium. Andujar dropped the USBA bantamweight champion four times, and the non-title fight was stopped in the fourth round. At press time, Cook was reevaluating his career.

Kevin Kelley, featherweight (August 1991 issue): Kelley, 23-0 (17), has kayoed all four of his opponents, including perennial contender James Pipps in July. As we went to press, Madison Square Garden Boxing, his promoter, was negotiating a fight with WBC champion Marcos Villasana. Kelley, a southpaw, is rated fifth by the WBA, sixth by the WBC, and 10th by the IBF. He will likely continue to improve, but should already be competitive against all three world champions.

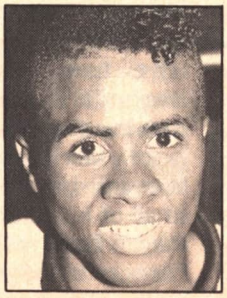
Joichiro Tatsuyoshi, bantamweight (September 1991 issue): The former school thug became the class of '91's valedictorian in September, when he scored a 10th-round stoppage of WBC champion Greg Richardson in his native Japan. For now, at least, unification bouts against IBF titlist Orlando Canizales or WBA king Luisito Espinosa are unlikely. Tatsuyoshi, 7-0-1 (7), is called "the Japanese Ruben Olivares."



Romallis Ellis, junior welterweight (October 1991 issue): Ellis, 16-0 (13), decisioned world-rated Marco Lizarraga in February but has not fought since. Not having a regular manager or promoter continues to severely hamper the 1988 Olympic bronze medalist's career.

Lamar Parks, middleweight (November 1991 issue): Parks, 21, has not fought since his one-sided points win over super middleweight Lenzie Morgan in July. In that victory, the brash South Carolinian, 17-0 (13), displayed exceptional speed, boxing ability, and poise. And although he has gone three fights and 32 rounds without a kayo, Madison Square Garden Boxing's latest gem does have power. He is rated fifth by the IBF, seventh by the WBA, and eighth by the WBC, and is eager for a world title shot.

Roger Turner, welterweight (December 1991 issue): Turner hasn't fought since his crossroads decision win over 1988 Olympic bronze medalist Kenny Gould in July. As we went to press, the slick boxer, 21-0 (12), was scheduled to face veteran Louis Howard. Former junior welterweight champion Saoul Mamby and Mexican contender Genaro Leon have been mentioned as future opponents. At 28, Turner is in his physical prime. He should make his move soon.

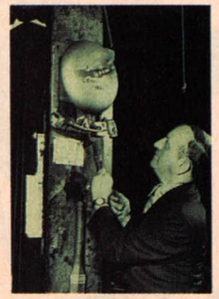


Colin McMillan, featherweight (January 1991 issue): The master boxer retained the British featherweight title with a seventh-round kayo of Kevin Pritchard in September. Even though McMillan's handlers are optimistic about his future they are in no hurry to secure a world title try. Look for McMillan, 19-1 (9), to soon fight Frenchman Fabrice Benichou, a former world 122-pound champion, for the European featherweight belt. ■

Nat Fleischer in The Ring's Madison Square Garden office in 1937. Fleischer founded the magazine in 1922 and remained publisher and editor until his death in 1972.

NAT FLEISCHER & *THE RING:*

GIVING BIRTH TO AN INSTITUTION



By Steve Farhood

Two jewels in Fleischer's fabled collection of memorabilia: the bell used for Jim Jeffries-Tom Sharkey (top), and Charley Mitchell's solid silver belt (left).

Fleischer's cluttered office contained more than 2,000 record books, written in various languages, dating back to the 1880s.

Like a fighter trained to instantly capitalize on an opportunity, Nat Fleischer took his best shot. Guided by a journalist's instincts and a purist's love for boxing, he considered recent events—the passing of the Walker Law, which again legalized the fight game in New York State, and the unprecedented success of the Jack Dempsey-Georges Carpentier heavyweight title fight, which grossed more than $1.7-million—and drew a single conclusion: The time had come for *The Ring*.

It was late-1921, and Fleischer, as the sports editor of the New York *Telegram,* had neither the time nor the money to launch a magazine. But he knew where to bring his idea. Tex Rickard, who had promoted Dempsey-Carpentier, was willing to fund the project, and Ike Dorgan, Rickard's press agent, was willing to work by Fleischer's side. (Initially, there were two other partners, Frank Coultry, secretary-treasurer of Madison Square Garden, and I.C. Brenner of *Golfer's Magazine.* Before the end of 1922, however, Fleischer and Dorgan bought them out.)

In editing his first issue, dated February 15, 1922, Fleischer solicited contributions from New York City's top sportswriters, like Damon Runyon and Hype Igoe. Fleischer intended *The Ring* to be little more than a newsletter covering boxing in the New York area. It grew quickly, however, and by 1927, he resigned at the *Telegram* and devoted all of his considerable energy to *The Ring*. From 1932 through 1972, Fleischer served as the magazine's sole editor and publisher.

Giving birth to *The Ring* was an ambitious project, but at the start, it would have been impossible for Fleischer to envision the impact he and his magazine would have.

● For the February 1925 issue, Fleischer asked Rickard to compile the first-ever boxing ratings. Three years later, the ratings would become a monthly feature, and for a rising fighter, a place in *The Ring's* top 10 meant instant credibility.

● A few months after launching the magazine, Fleischer awarded heavyweight titlist Dempsey with the first *Ring* championship belt. In a simpler world, when one champion headed each of the eight original weight classes, the belt became a universal symbol of fistic supremacy. Today, 70 years after Fleischer honored Dempsey, the belt is awarded annually to *The Ring's* Fighter of the Year.

● In 1942, Fleischer published the first edition of *The Ring Record Book And Boxing Encyclopedia*. It would become the sport's leading reference source.

● With *The Ring* securing the title of "The Bible of Boxing," Fleischer became the sport's leading spokesman, touring the world and officiating title fights. At the time of his death in June 1972, he was as famous as most of the fighters he covered, and *The Ring* had established itself as the leader in boxing journalism. Today, it is the oldest continuously published sports magazine on the newsstands.

Would its founder recognize *The Ring* on its 70th birthday? We're sure he would. Even though Fleischer valued tradition and stubbornly supported turn-of-the-century fighters in the never-ending debate pitting yesterday vs. today, he wasn't adverse to change. More importantly, he was consistent with his philosophy: Cover fights and fighters, and fight for what's right.

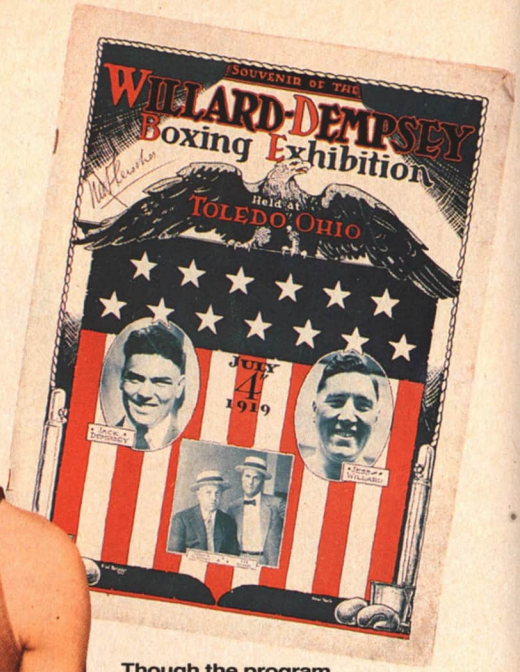
In the late-'60s, Muhammad Ali was stripped of the heavyweight title after refusing induction into the armed forces. Television's Howard Cosell has always been regarded as the only member of the media who supported Ali's rights. It is among Fleischer's legacies, however, that he recognized Ali, whom he still referred to as Cassius Clay, as champion until mid-1970. It was not the popular stand, but time proved it to be the correct one.

Seventy years after Fleischer sold his idea to Tex Rickard, time has proved him right about *The Ring,* too. ■

1920s

THE '20s ALL-STAR TEAM

Heavyweight: Jack Dempsey
Light Heavyweight: Tommy Loughran
Middleweight: Harry Greb
Welterweight: Mickey Walker
Lightweight: Benny Leonard
Junior Lightweight: Tod Morgan
Featherweight: Louis Kaplan
Bantamweight: Joe Lynch
Flyweight: Pancho Villa



Though the program billed it as an exhibition, the Willard-Dempsey heavyweight title fight was painfully real. Dempsey took the crown via fourth-round kayo.

Benny Leonard

LEONARD WINS OVER TENDLER

Champion Retains Title in One of His Easiest Victories Before a Crowd of 65,000

65,000 ATTENDANCE WITH $500,000 GATE

BETTER THAN EVER

HAD SOUTHPAW STYLE SOLVED

Leonard Blocked Tendler's Leads with Ease and Beat Him to the Punch

DUNDEE SLIGHT CHOIC

In the '20s, boxing revolved around four very different men whose careers were indelibly intertwined. James J. Walker was a State Senator from New York—he would later be elected mayor—who became the sport's savior. Tex Rickard was a gold prospector who became a promoter. Nat Fleischer was a newspaper editor who became the publisher of *The Ring*. And Jack Dempsey was a heavyweight champion who became a superstar.

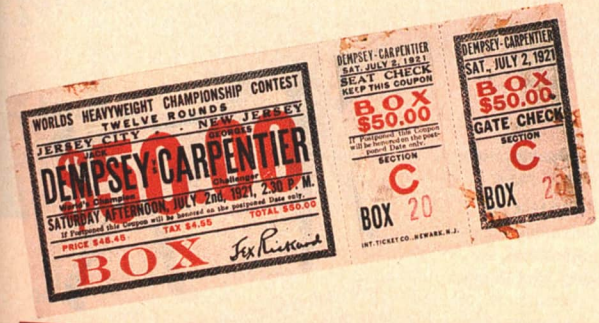
Boxing in the teens was choppy and unappealing. Heavyweight champion Jack Johnson was a black fugitive, and the sport was barred in several states. Over the course of a four-year period, however, there were drastic changes. They began in 1919, when the charismatic Dempsey, a one-time hobo from the wild west, brutalized Johnson's conqueror, Jess Willard, and won the heavyweight crown. One year later, Walker passed legislation that legalized boxing—and matches fought to judges' decisions—in New York State. In 1921, Rickard promoted Dempsey's defense against French light heavyweight Georges Carpentier, which drew 91,000 fans and an unimaginable gate of $1,626,580. And in 1922, Fleischer, along with Ike Dorgan (Rickard's press agent) and two other partners, founded *The Ring*. Boxing had arrived.

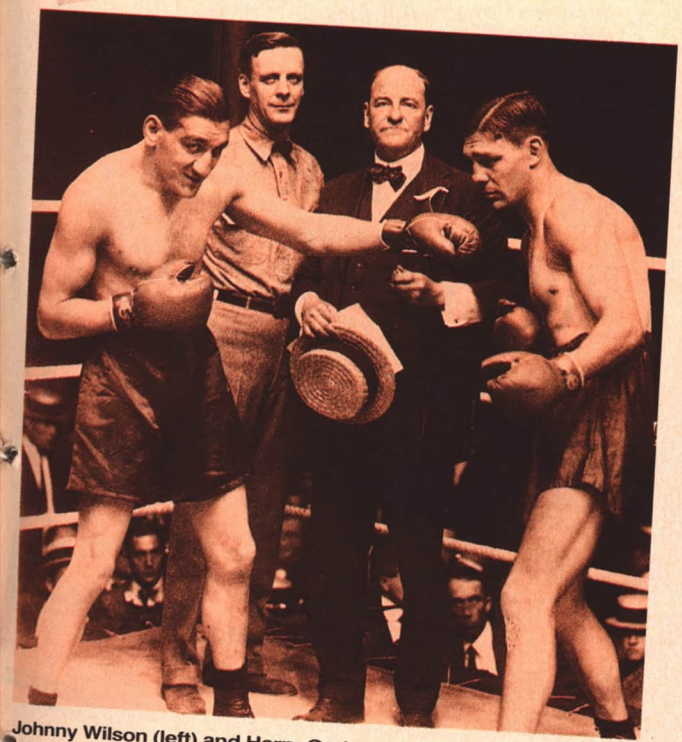
In the Roaring Twenties, no one roared louder than Dempsey. He fought from New York City to Shelby, Montana, married a movie star, and, by plac-

(Continued on page 78)

Fighter Of The Decade: Benny Leonard—A tough choice over Dempsey, but Leonard may have been the best pure boxer of the first half of the century. Equally slick and intelligent, and an underrated puncher as well. The first non-heavyweight to establish himself as not only a great fighter, but as a universally accepted presence as well.

The reign of a light heavyweight legend began in October 1927, when Tommy Loughran (left) dethroned Mike McTigue via unanimous 15-round decision at Madison Square Garden.

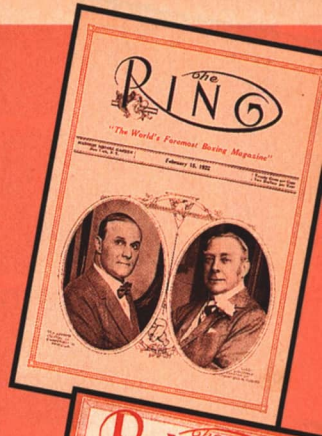




Johnny Wilson (left) and Harry Greb square off before their 1923 middleweight title fight. Greb won on points. Referee Jack O'Sullivan and ring announcer Joe Humphreys look on.

THE COVERS OF *THE RING*

Tommy Gibbons—3
Tommy Freeman—3
Jack Dempsey—2
Mickey Walker—2
Jack Sharkey—2
Young Stribling—2
Gene Tunney—2
Corp. Izzy Schwartz—2
Johnny Dundee—2
Harry Greb—2
James J. Walker—2



February 1922:

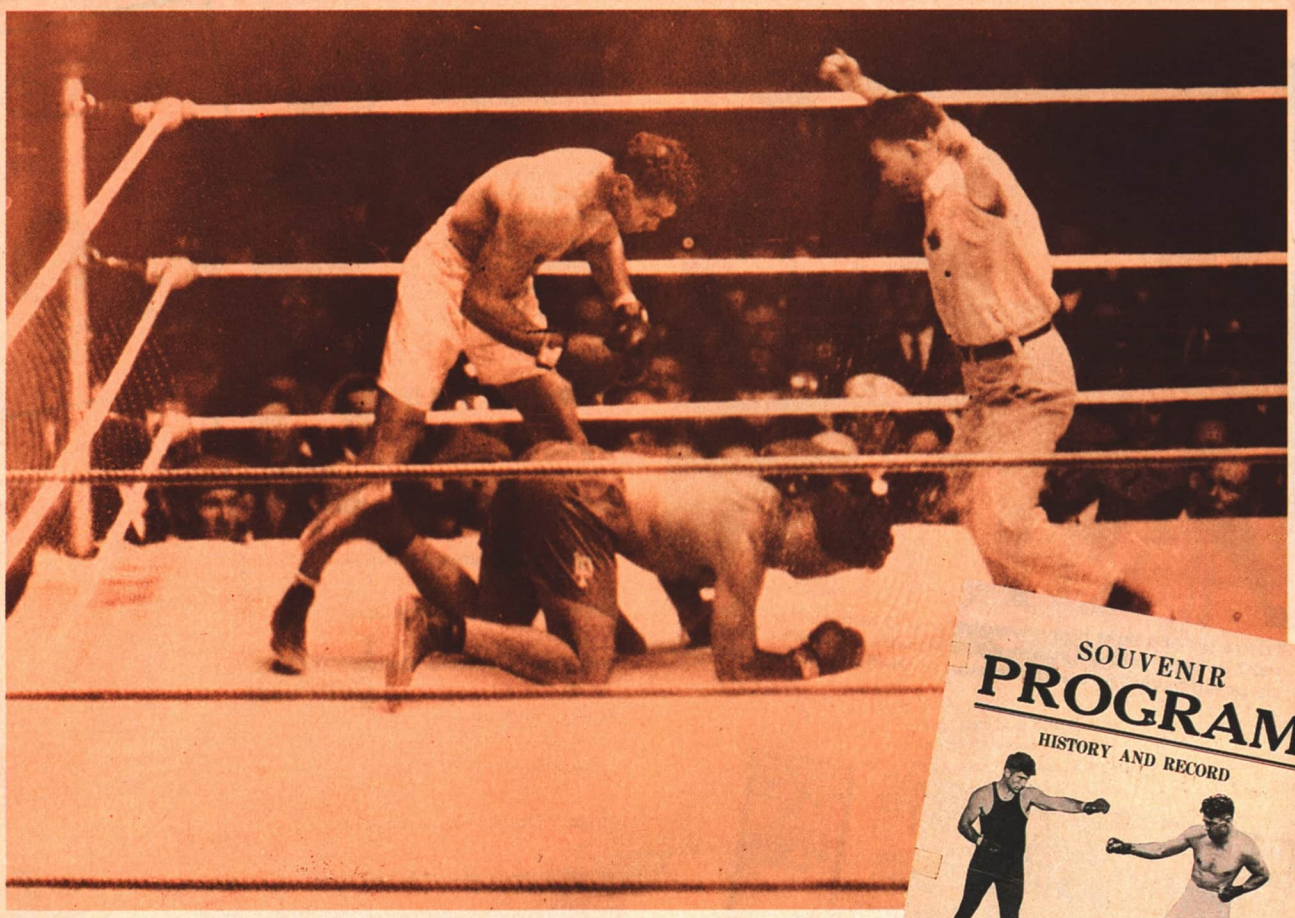
The first issue of *The Ring*, advertised as "The World's Foremost Boxing Magazine," is published from the offices of Madison Square Garden. The cover price is 20 cents. Gertrude Phillips writes the first feature article, "The Influence Of Women At Boxing Bouts." The issue contains results, wrestling news, and advertisements from fight managers, including a full-pager from Doc Kearns. The focus of the 24-page magazine is limited to boxing in New York City.

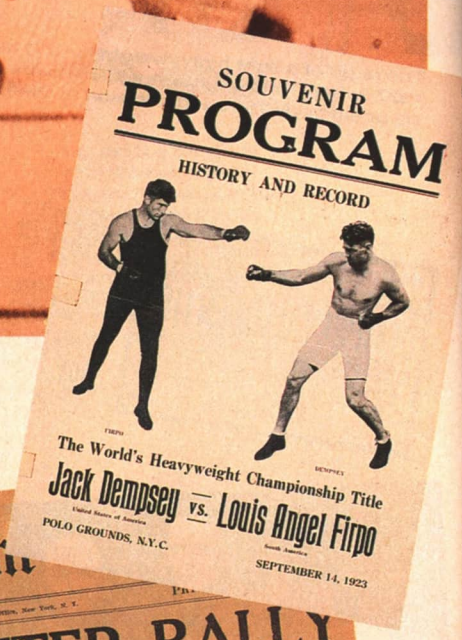
March 1922:

The Ring introduces a monthly feature on billiards.

November 1922:

Damon Runyon pens his first story, a profile of heavyweight Floyd Johnson. It can only be described as Runyonesque.





Fight Of The Decade: Jack Dempsey KO 2 Luis Firpo—Dempsey floored the Argentine giant seven times in the first round, but it was Firpo's second knockdown of the defending champion that will live forever. A right sent Dempsey through the ropes, and, aided by a telegrapher and sportswriter, he barely reentered the ring by the count of 10. Firpo didn't follow up, however, and Dempsey scored a kayo one round later.

MID-AFTERNOON
Wall Street Closing Prices

The Evening Telegram

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1923. EIGHTEEN PAGES.

NO. 29,355.

HOPE FOR MAYOR GAINS AFTER RALLY

DEMPSEY ENDS FIRPO'S HOPES WITH K. O.

TWO BIG MOMENTS IN DEMPSEY-FIRPO BATTLE.

JACK IMITATES BULL TACTICS OF FOE AND WINS IN 2D ROUND

Huge Crowd Sees Champion Floor Challenger Nine Times in One of Pugilism's Greatest Battles.

By George B. Underwood.

DEMPSEY, WILLS FIRPO BOUTS LOOM

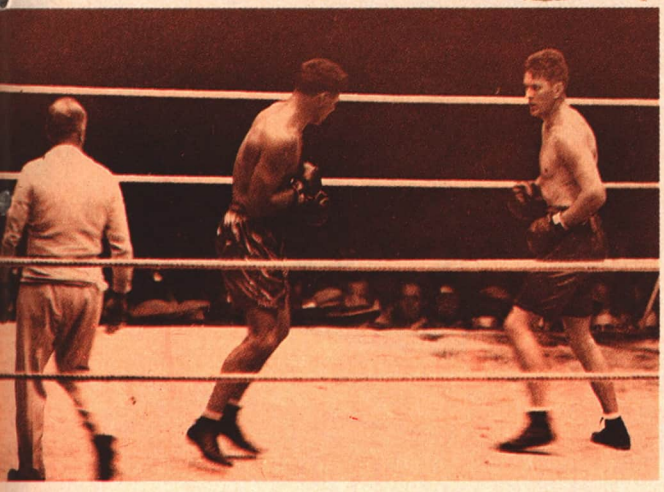
Return Scrap Between Jack and Luis Likely—Both Men for Negro Heavy.

The Cleveland Press

FIGHT PICTURES

NNEY WINS TERRIFIC BATTLE

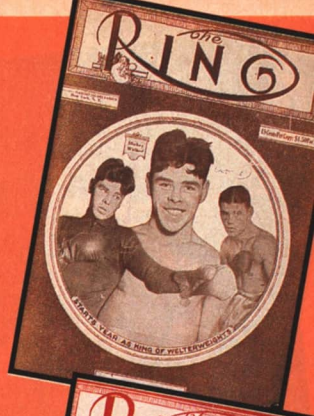
FIRST PICTURES OF DEMPSEY-TUNNEY CHAMPIONSHIP BATTLE



Upset Of The Decade: Gene Tunney W 10 Jack Dempsey—Tunney was already an accomplished fighter—he had won three of four wars against the legendary Harry Greb. But he certainly wasn't an established heavyweight, and Dempsey figured to overpower him. Tunney, however, boxed masterfully and won a clear-cut decision. (The famed long count came in Tunney-Dempsey II, which, though also won by Tunney, was a much closer fight than the original.)

February 1923:

Frederick G. Lieb, the president of the Baseball Writers Association, contributes "Superstition In The Ring And On The Diamond," which mixes baseball and boxing. He becomes a regular contributor, weaving stories of the national pastime into the sweet science.



June 1923:

A.D. Phillips offers "Pets Of Fistic Luminaries." For Tom Sharkey, it was a mouse. For Battling Nelson, a bird. For Bob Fitzsimmons, a lion. We thought you should know.

December 1924:

Seeking fresh talent, trainer Jimmy DeForest runs a full-page ad, "You May Be The Man To Stop Dempsey."

Pancho Villa, the decade's best fly-weight, gets ready to test Johnny Buff in September 1922. Villa won by 11th-round TKO. One year later, he captured the world crown by dethroning the legendary "Mighty Atom," Jimmy Wilde.

Fans at Garden Pay Silent Tribute to H

TEX RICKARD IN THE OLD WEST

"IN THOSE HERD BOYHOOD DAYS AMONG THE CATTLEMEN AND TRAGEDIES---- WE WERE NOT DEVOID OF TENDERNESS----"

"RAN ACROSS A LITTLE CALF, BORN DURING THE DAY, THAT HAD LOST ITS MOTHER.... CARRIED IT TO CAMP....."

"GOT SO HELD REAR AND PITCH AT THE SIGHT OF A MOLASSES CAN..."

"AS TOWN MARSHAL OF HEDRIETTA GOT $2½ FOR EACH ARREST... BUSINESS WAS PRETTY GOOD ON SATURDAY NIGHTS..."

MOST OF MY MONEY CAME FROM IMPOUNDING STRAY HOGS. THEY BROUGHT A DOLLAR.

"THESOW HAD GIVEN BIRTH TO FOURTEEN PIGS. HERE WAS A DOWARD!"

Tex Rickard's Own Story Of His Life From Cowboy To Millionaire Promoter

His Experiences as Marshal in Small Texas Town---The Cantankerous Calf That Wouldn't Eat Anything but Molasses

This is the only autobiography written by Tex Rickard. It was prepared in collaboration with Bozeman Bulger of The Evening World for publication exclusively for The Evening World and the North American Newspaper Alliance. Shortly before Rickard's death he discussed with Bulger plans for publication of these memoirs in book form. Following is the fifth instalment of the autobiography, which appears in daily chapters.

Jan 12 1925

By Tex Rickard

(In collaboration with Bozeman Bulg

Written exclusively for The Evening World and the North Ame Copyright 1928 by the North American Newspap

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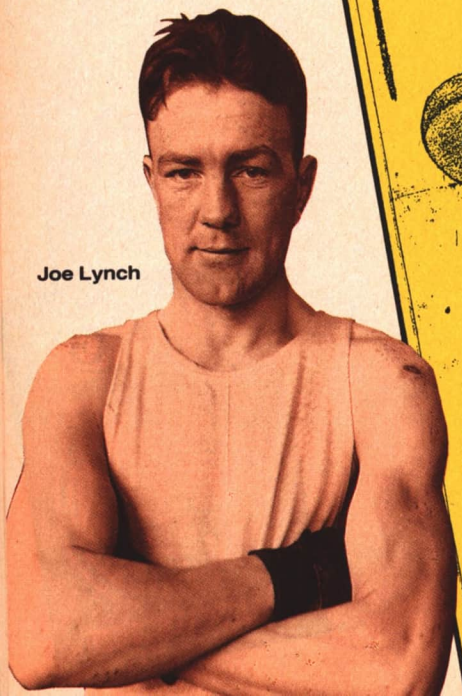
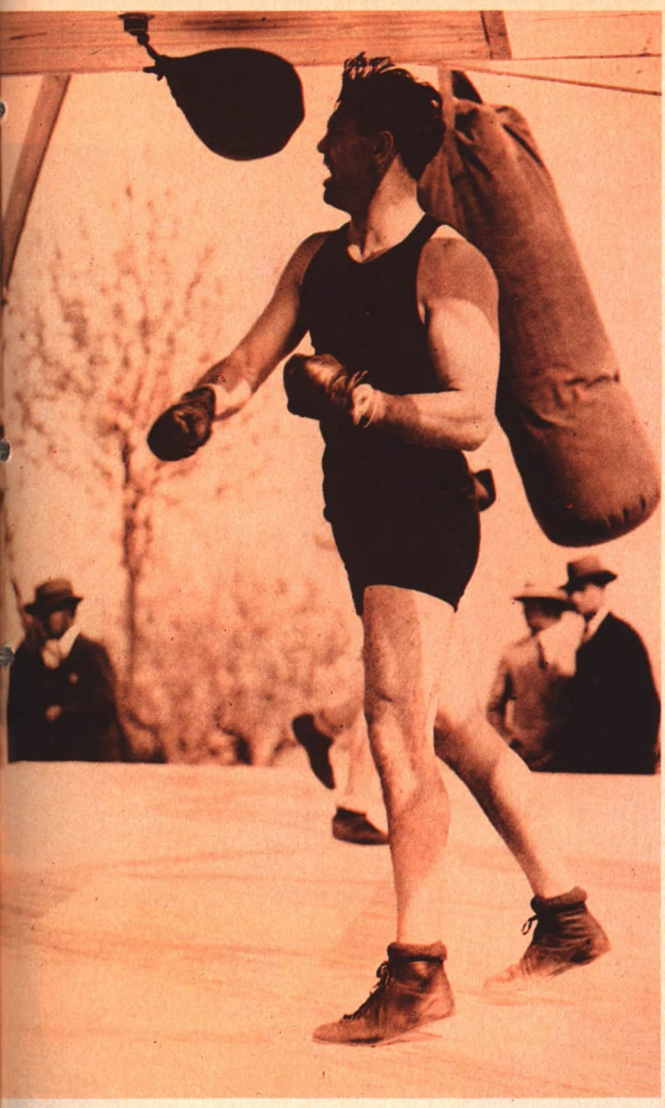
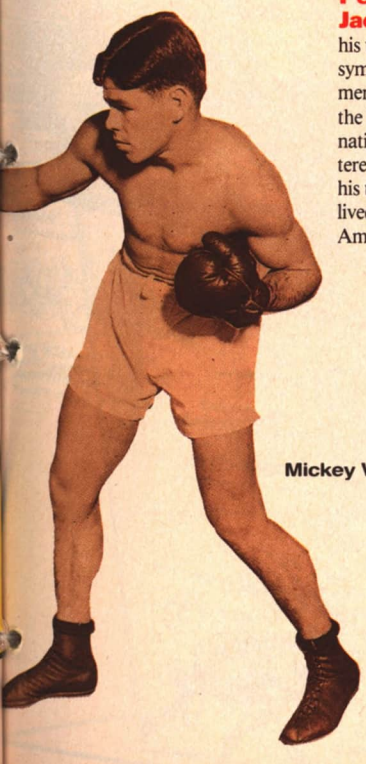


Joe Lynch



Personality Of The Decade: Jack Dempsey—As recognized in his time as Babe Ruth, Dempsey was a symbol of the Roaring Twenties. A former hobo who epitomized the spirit of the West, he captured the public's imagination with his power and ferocity. Interestingly, his popularity peaked after his title-fight loss to Tunney, and he lived his retirement years as a legitimate American hero.



Mickey Walker

February 1925:

Promoter Tex Rickard compiles the first-ever boxing ratings, which becomes an annual feature. (In 1928, Eddie Borden would begin to compile monthly ratings.) There's no truth to the rumor that, out of respect for tradition, *The Ring* is going to ask Don King to replace Editor-in-Chief Steve Farhood as chairman of our current ratings committee.

March 1928:

Heavyweight champion Gene Tunney wins the first annual Most Valuable Boxer trophy, which evolves into *The Ring's* Fighter of the Year award. He receives 22 of 25 first-place votes. Light heavyweight champion Tommy Loughran is the runner-up.

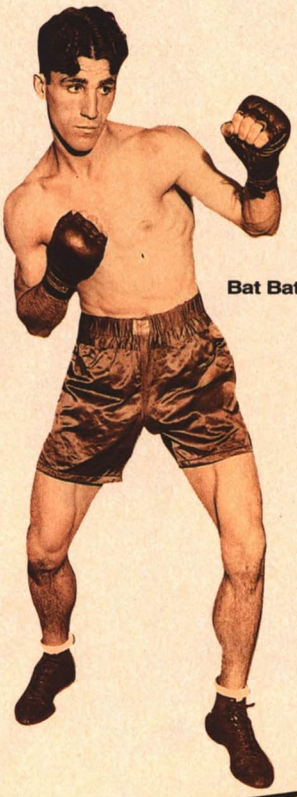
June 1928:

The story that had to be told: "Why Babe Ruth, King Of Baseball Sluggers, Never Turned To The Ring." Imagine The Babe trying to make weight. Now *that* would've been a story.

1930s

THE '30s ALL-STAR TEAM

Heavyweight: Joe Louis
Light Heavyweight: Maxie Rosenbloom
Middleweight: Freddie Steele
Welterweight: Henry Armstrong
Junior Welterweight: Barney Ross
Lightweight: Tony Canzoneri
Featherweight: Kid Chocolate
Bantamweight: Panama Al Brown
Flyweight: Benny Lynch



Bat Battalino

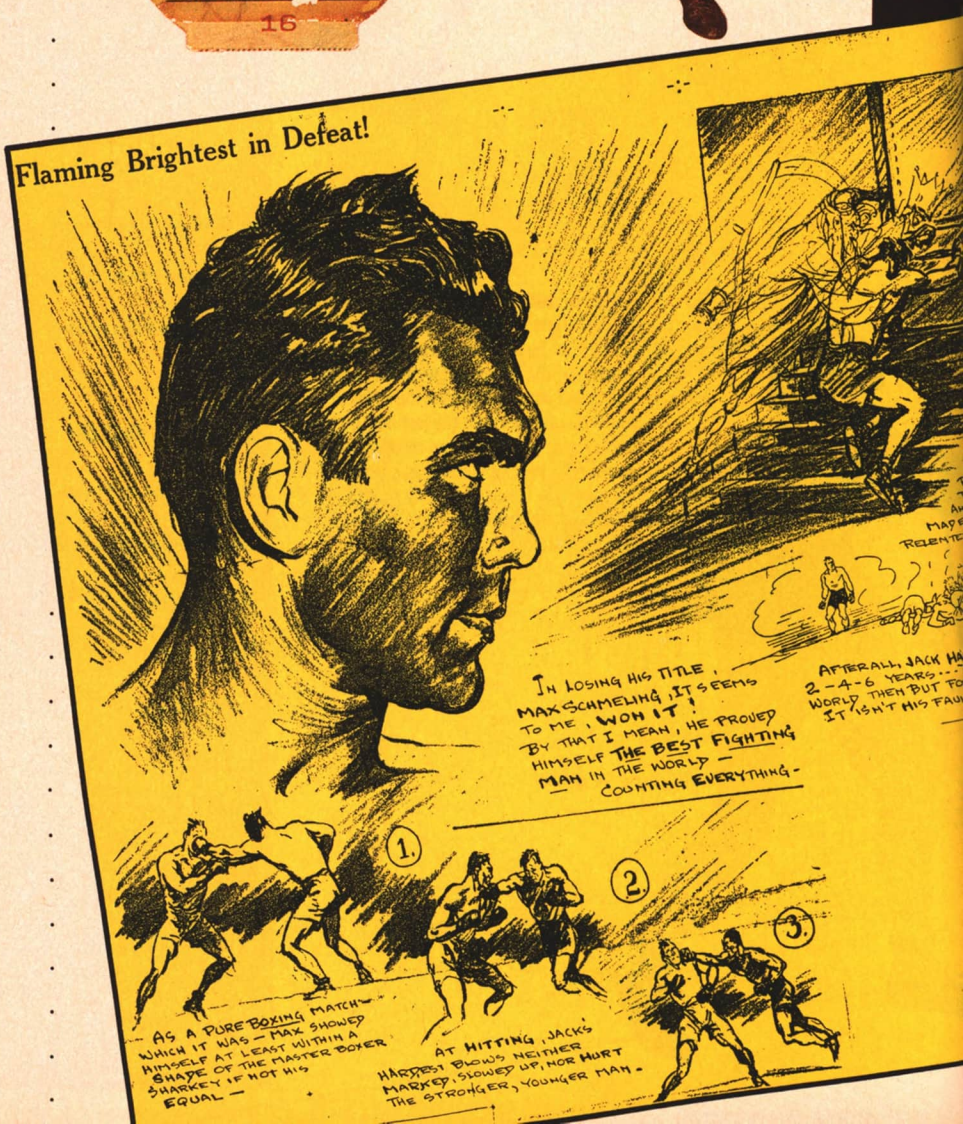
During the Depression, boxing flourished as never before. Fighters who were hungry, both figuratively and literally, saw the ring as one of their few options. The average working man struggled, often futilely, to support his family. But for a top fighter, the dollars remained plentiful.

In August 1929, Henry Armstrong, 17 years old and working for the Missouri-Pacific Railroad, came across a newspaper headline that changed his life: "Kid Chocolate Earns $75,000 For Half Hour's Work." Chocolate, the unbeaten featherweight from Cuba, had decisioned Al Singer in New York City. Fantasizing about Chocolate's purse, Armstrong realized that the fight hadn't even been contested for a world title. He no longer dreamed of being a doctor. Within two years, the fighter who would turn out to be the best of the decade turned pro.

In the '30s, boxing featured more fighters and more fights. (In the '20s, there had been a total of 158 world title fights; in the '30s, there were 230.) Madison Square Garden became the center of the fistic kingdom; Mike Jacobs, who controlled almost every weight class, became the most powerful promoter in history; and Armstrong and Joe Louis became the greatest black champions of all.

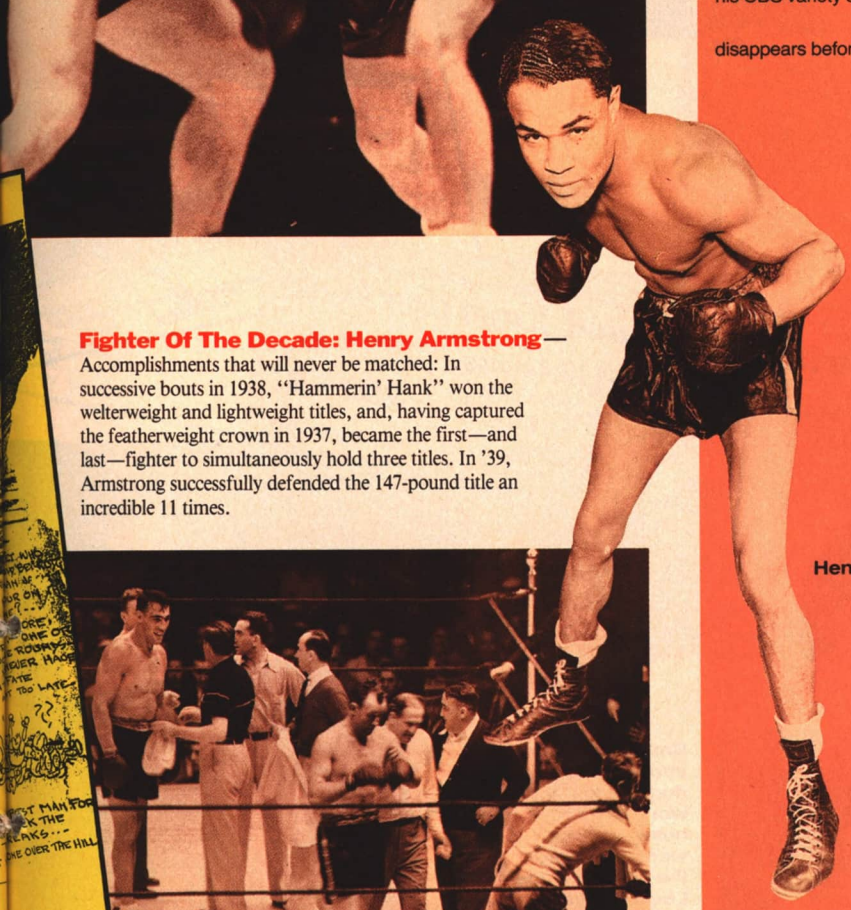
Until Louis kayoed James J. Braddock in June 1937, there hadn't been a black heavyweight titlist since Jack Johnson 22 years before. At first glance, it seems remarkable that Louis was instantly and universally accepted in what re-

(Continued on page 78)



Nearing the end of a spectacular career, former welterweight and middleweight champion Mickey Walker (left) trades with light heavyweight king Maxie Rosenbloom during their November 1933 title fight at Madison Square Garden. "Slapsie Maxie" kept the crown by split 15-round decision.

Fighter Of The Decade: Henry Armstrong—Accomplishments that will never be matched: In successive bouts in 1938, "Hammerin' Hank" won the welterweight and lightweight titles, and, having captured the featherweight crown in 1937, became the first—and last—fighter to simultaneously hold three titles. In '39, Armstrong successfully defended the 147-pound title an incredible 11 times.

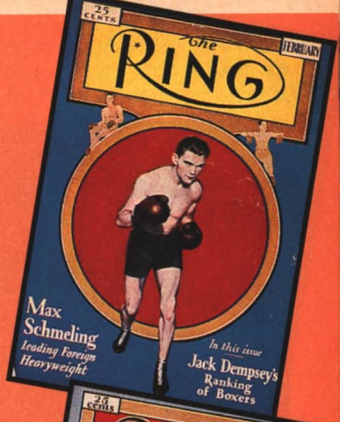


Henry Armstrong

Primo Carnera has lots to smile about: He's just kayoed Jack Sharkey to become heavyweight champion of the world. In June 1933, Carnera suddenly stopped Sharkey in the sixth round at the Madison Square Garden Bowl.

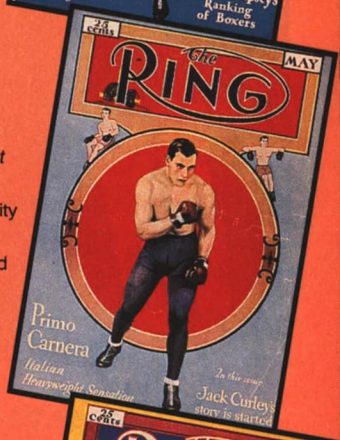
THE COVERS OF *THE RING*

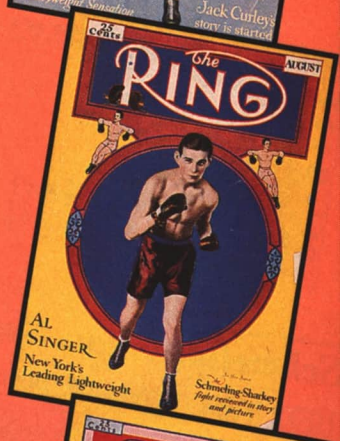
Max Schmeling—15
Joe Louis—15
Max Baer—9
Barney Ross—8
Jimmy McLarnin—8
Tony Canzoneri—8
Jim Braddock—6
Primo Carnera—5
Henry Armstrong—4
Jack Sharkey—4
Jack Dempsey—4
Lou Ambers—4
Freddie Steele—4

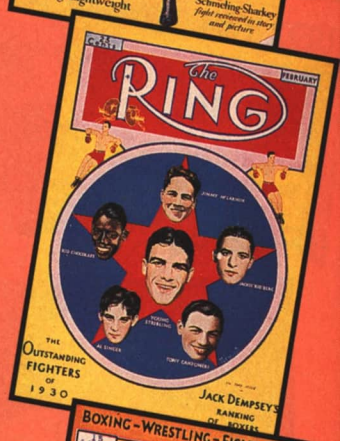


February 1930:

The birth of a column, "Old Broadway," by Ed Sullivan. (Yes, *that* Ed Sullivan, a respected New York City newspaperman long before he hosted his CBS variety show.) The column disappears before the year is out.



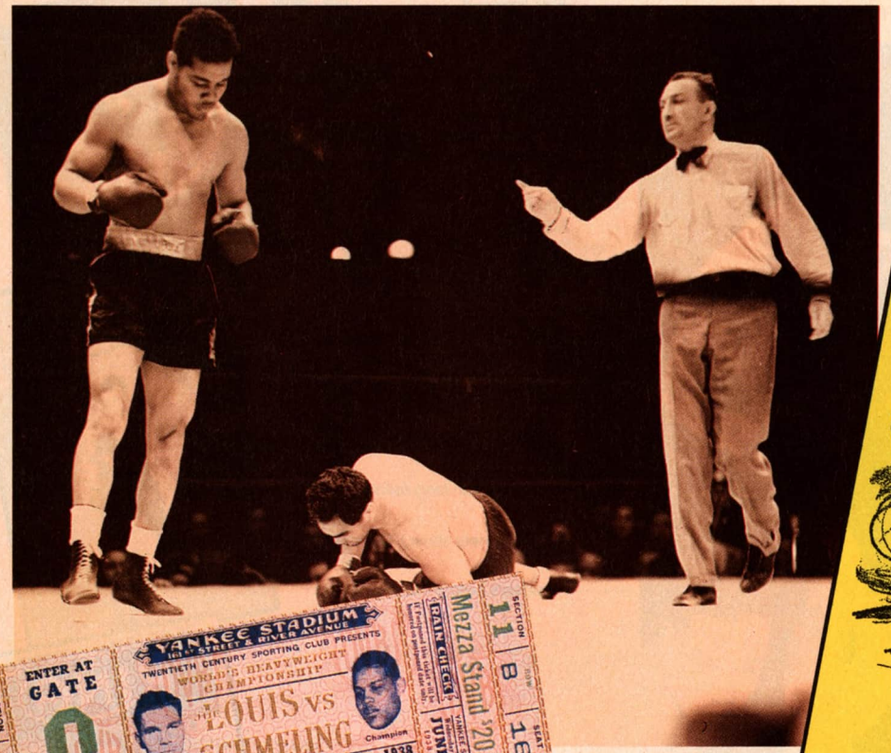


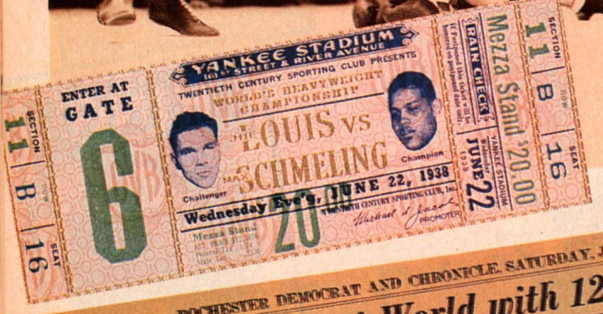


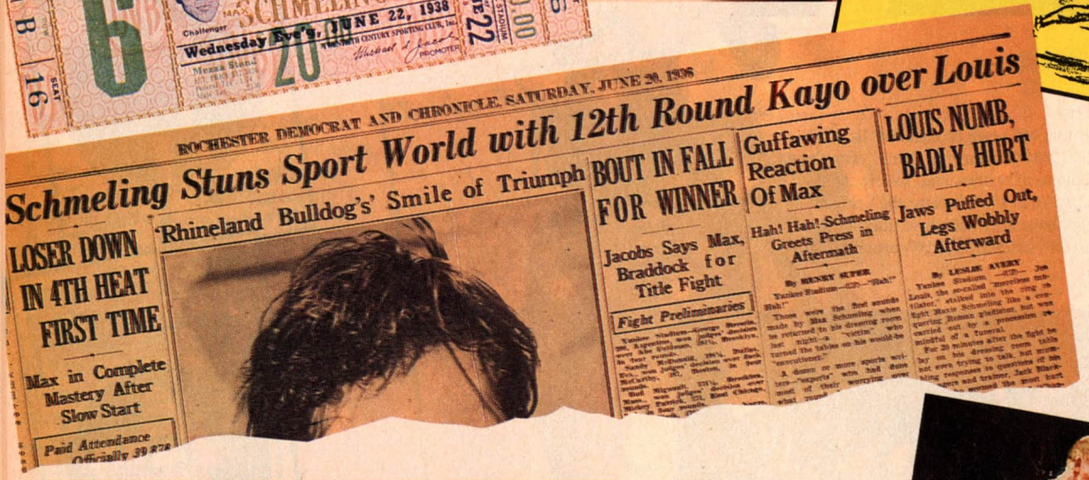
August 1932:

Citing the difficult economic times sure to follow, *The Ring* reduces its cover price from 25 cents to 15 cents. In November 1933, the cover price returns to 25 cents.

Fight Of The Decade: Joe Louis KO 1 Max Schmeling—Never before or since has a bout transcended the ring like this one. Schmeling, who had issued Louis his only loss two years before, was hyped by Adolf Hitler as an example of Aryan supremacy. With the world on the brink of a second global war, Louis demolished the challenger in 124 seconds. The symbolism needed no explanation.






ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE, SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1936

Schmeling Stuns Sport World with 12th Round Kayo over Louis

LOSER DOWN IN 4TH HEAT FIRST TIME

Max in Complete Mastery After Slow Start

'Rhineland Bulldog's' Smile of Triumph

BOUT IN FALL FOR WINNER

Jacobs Says Max, Braddock for Title Fight

Fight Preliminaries

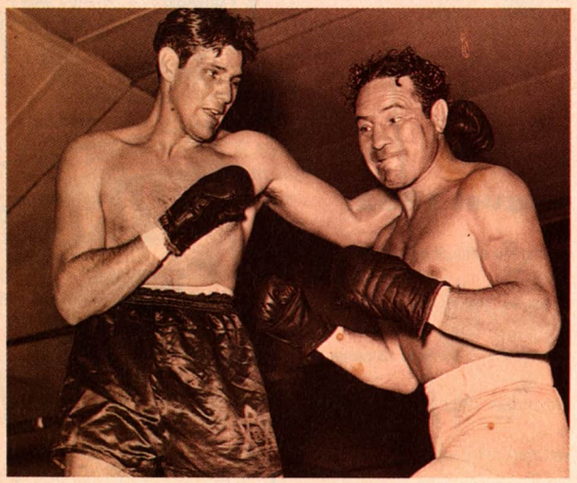
Guffawing Reaction Of Max

Hah! Hah! Schmeling Greets Press in Aftermath

LOUIS NUMB, BADLY HURT

Jaws Puffed Out, Legs Wobbly Afterward

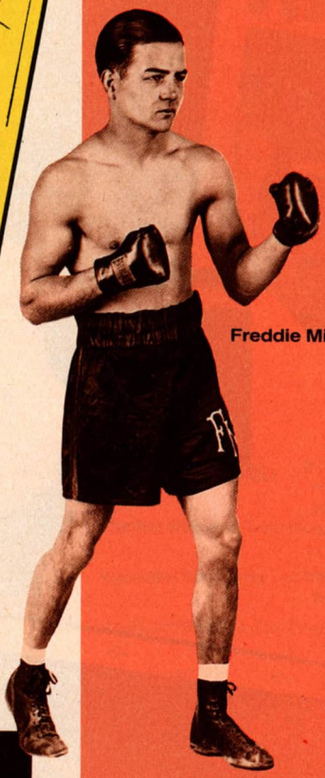
In May 1935, Jimmy McLarnin (jabbing) and Barney Ross engaged in the final bout of their trilogy. Ross won on points to take the welterweight title. He had previously held the lightweight and junior welterweight crowns.



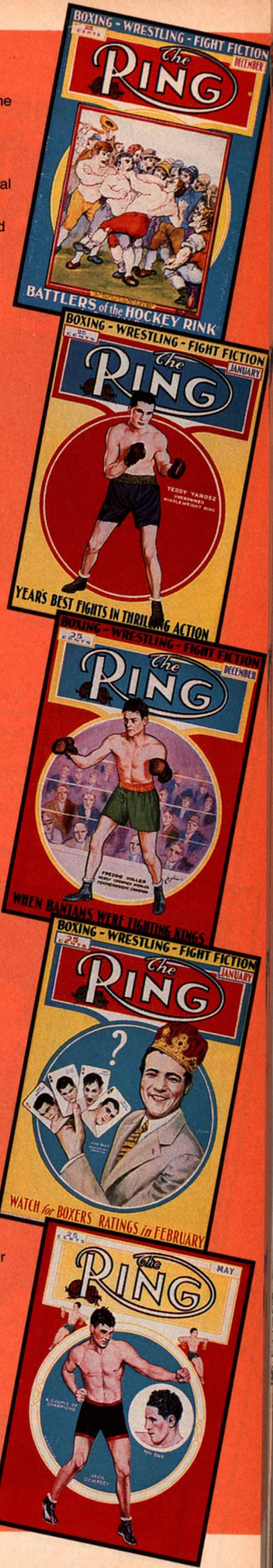
Brothers Buddy and Max Baer during a spirited workout. Both heavyweights were beaten by the dominant Joe Louis, Buddy in 1941 and '42, and Max in 1935.

December 1933:

Daniel M. Daniel pens "Battlers Of The Ice," which profiles some of the rambunctious members of the National Hockey League. Clearly a story ahead of its time.

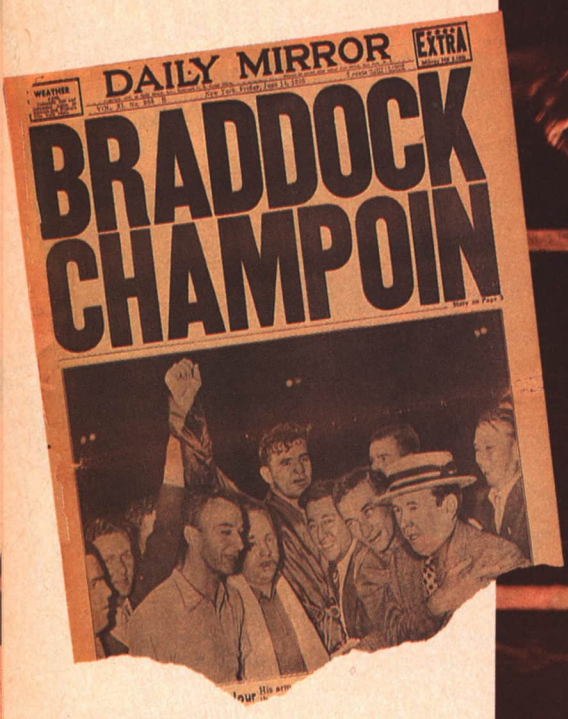


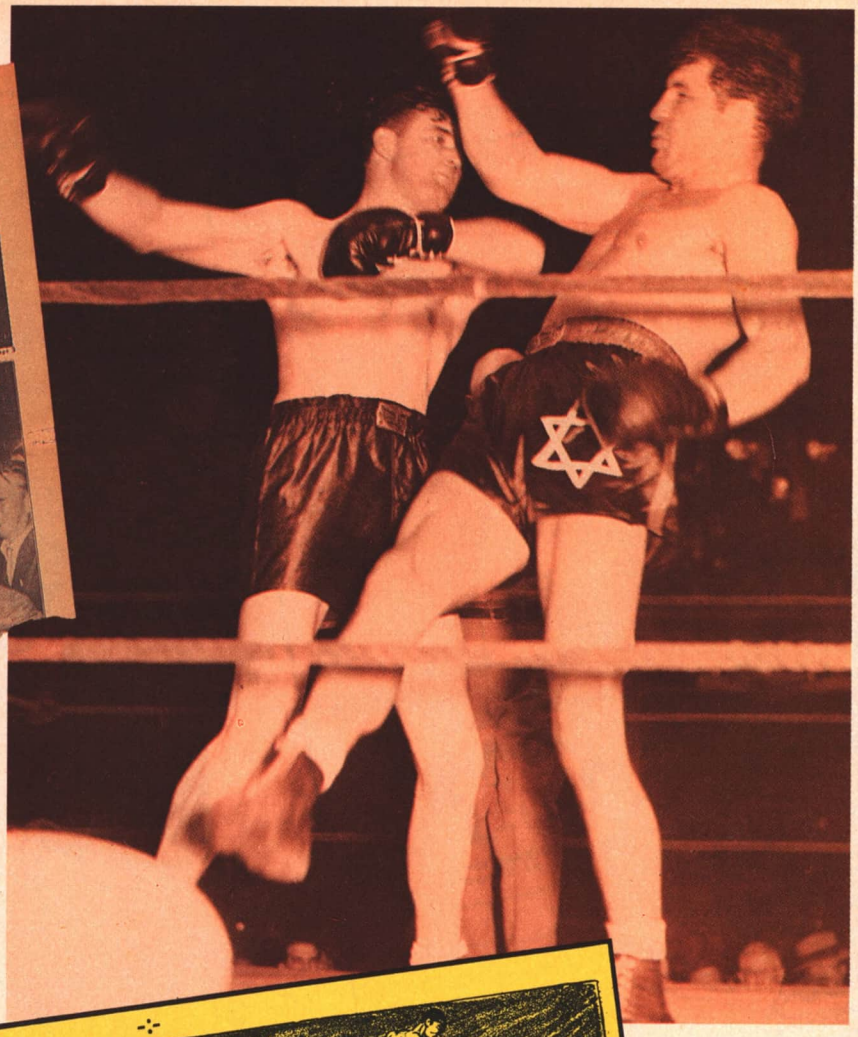
Freddie Miller



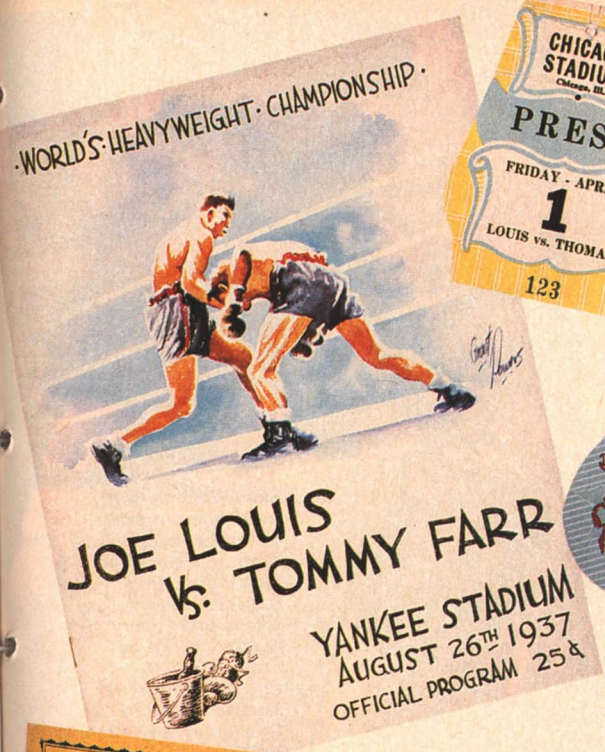
May 1935:

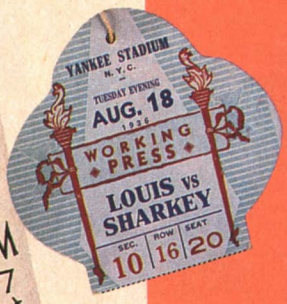
The first story on Joe Louis: "The Black Menace," by Nat Fleischer. Four issues later, Daniel M. Daniel follows with "Sepia Socker Louis Mauler With Mission." The blurb read "Negroes Believe Caucasians Had Better Develop Another Flock Of White Hopes." If they had only known.


DAILY MIRROR
EXTRA
BRADDOCK CHAMPOIN



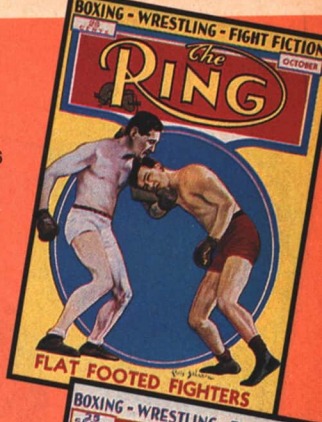
Upset Of The Decade: James J. Braddock W 15 Max Baer—Having lost 24 fights, Braddock, a 10-1 underdog, was given no chance against the supremely talented Baer. (In his title-winning effort against Primo Carnera, Baer had scored 11 knockdowns in 11 rounds.) Against Braddock, however, his power was negated by his opponent's solid chin. Baer clowned, Braddock worked, and the judges scored unanimously.

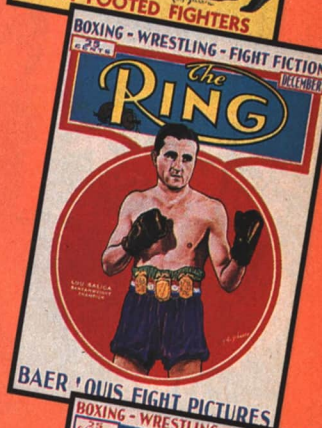




October 1935:

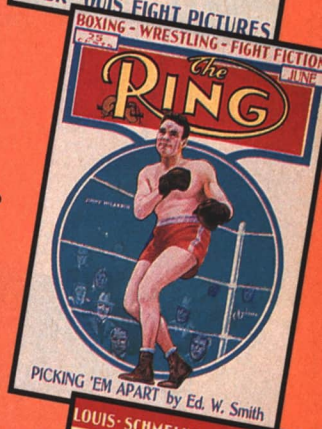
Nat Fleischer urges the American Olympic Committee to boycott the 1936 Games in Berlin because of the mistreatment of Catholics and Jews in Germany. His warning is not heeded.

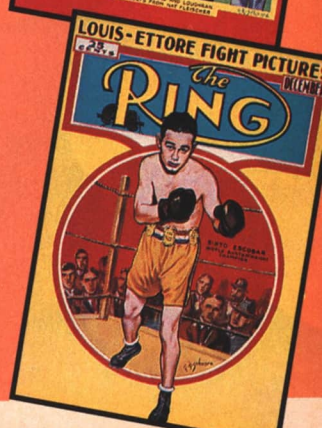




June 1936:

The first story and illustrations by legendary black artist Ted Carroll, who would contribute to *The Ring* until his death in 1973.

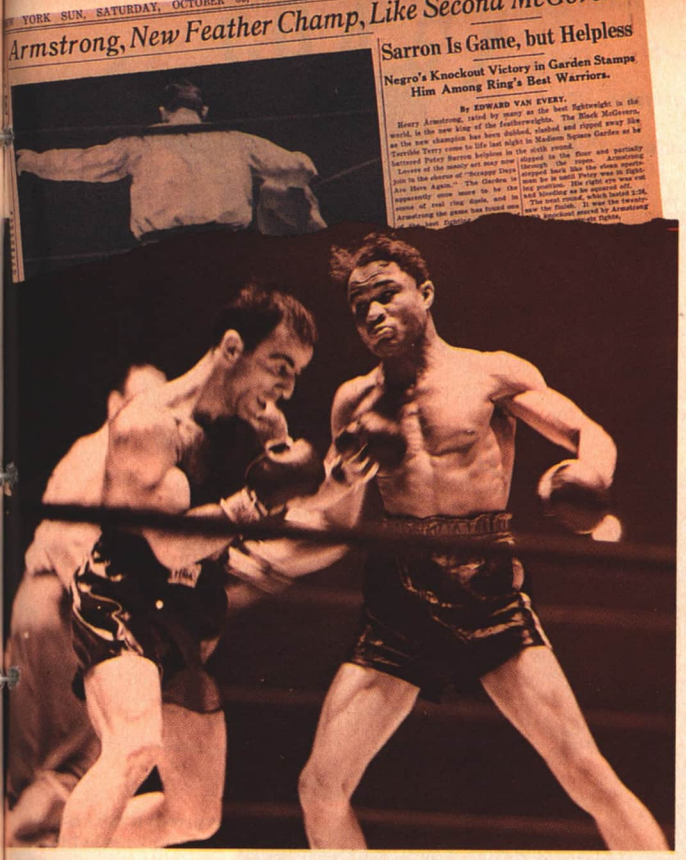




In June 1937, Joe Louis wins the heavyweight title by kayoing James J. Braddock in round eight (above). Lightweight champion Lou Ambers squares off with Pedro Montanez before their title fight in September 1937 (right). Ambers scored a majority 15-round decision.

Melio Bettina (left) had his moments, but not enough of them to top clever Billy Conn, who took the vacant world light heavyweight crown by unanimous 15-round decision at Madison Square Garden in July 1939.

Personality Of The Decade: Joe Louis—Louis emerged when good was good, bad was bad, and people everywhere knew the difference between the two. The first black heavyweight champion since Jack Johnson, he became a beloved symbol of an entire nation. As legendary sportswriter Jimmy Cannon wrote, "Louis was a credit to his race—the human race."



YORK SUN, SATURDAY, OCTOBER

Armstrong, New Feather Champ, Like Second McG

Sarron Is Game, but Helpless

Negro's Knockout Victory in Garden Stamps Him Among Ring's Best Warriors.

By EDWARD VAN EVERY.

Henry Armstrong, rated by many as the best lightweight in the world, is the new king of the featherweights. The Black McGovern, as the new champion has been dubbed, clubbed and ripped away the Terrible Terry come to life last night in Madison Square Garden as he battered Petey Sarron helpless in the sixth round.

Lovers of the peaceful art may now join to the chorus of "Swappy Days Are Here Again." The Garden, in apparently store were to be the scenes of real ring deals, and in Armstrong the game has found one

slipped to the floor and partially through the ropes. Armstrong stepped back like the alone sports- man he is until Petey was in fight- ing position. He right eye was cut and bleeding so he appeared off.

The next round, which lasted 2:26, saw the finish. It was the twenty- knockout scored by Armstrong

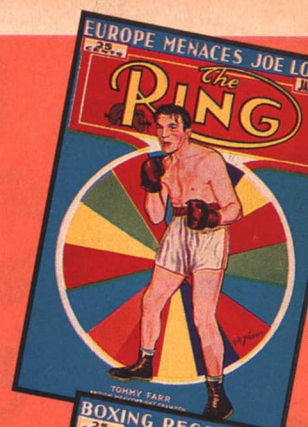
Henry Armstrong wins the world feather-weight title by topping a game but over-matched Petey Sarron by sixth-round kayo in October 1937. One year later, the Fighter of the Decade would add the lightweight and welterweight crowns.

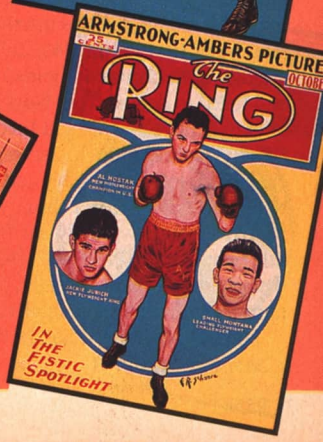
April 1938:

In the monthly "New Faces," Meyer Ackerman includes an Indianapolis middleweight named "K.O." Archie Moore. Remarkably, 24 years later, *The Ring* would cover the same fighter's bout against an up-and-coming Cassius Clay.

March 1939:

Stanley Weston receives his first byline for a wrestling column. In the December 1939 issue, he illustrates his first cover, a drawing of Billy Conn. There would be 56 more.



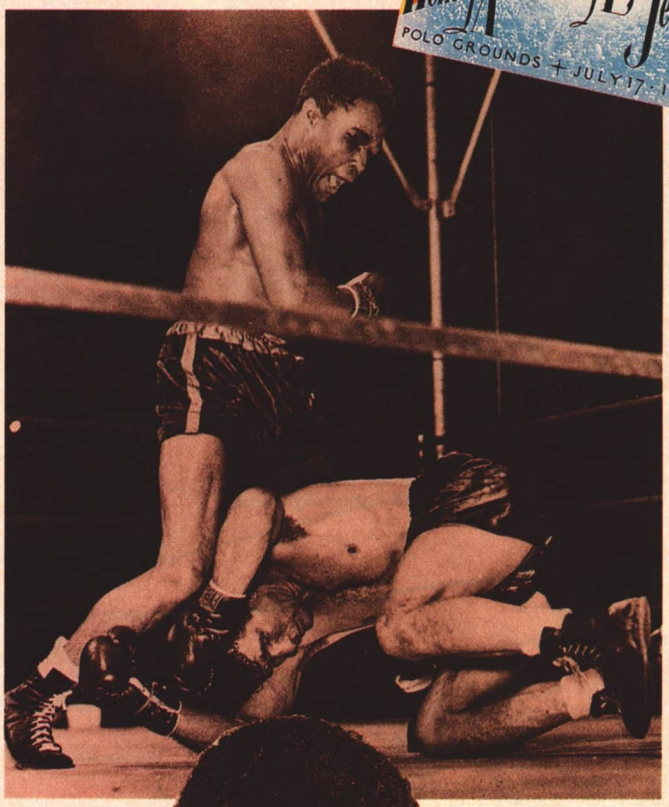


1940s

THE '40s ALL-STAR TEAM

Heavyweight: Joe Louis
Light Heavyweight: Gus Lesnevich
Middleweight: Tony Zale
Welterweight: Sugar Ray Robinson
Lightweight: Ike Williams
Featherweight: Willie Pep
Bantamweight: Manuel Ortiz
Flyweight: Rinty Monaghan

In a July 1940 battle of champions, welterweight king Henry Armstrong kayos lightweight titlist Lew Jenkins in round six. Two fights later, Armstrong would be dethroned by Fritzie Zivic.

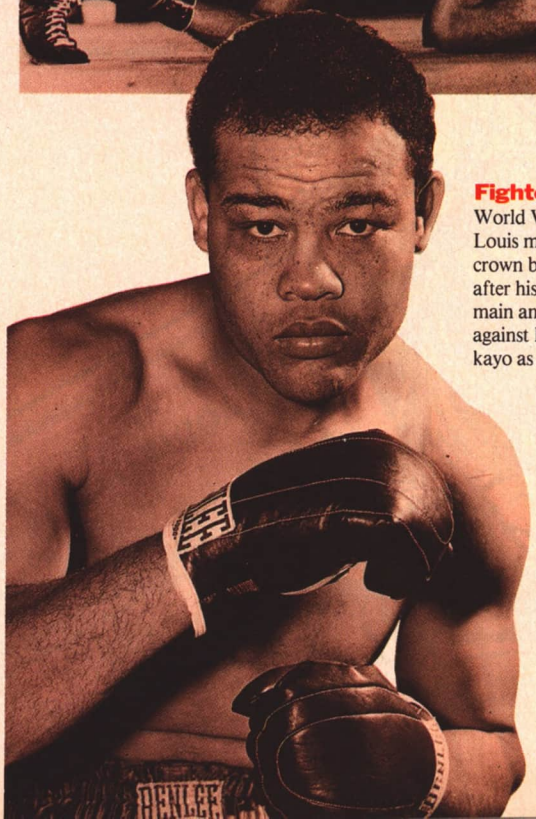


Given that in 1941 boxing had to close its eyes and take a five-year nap, the decade was remarkably vibrant. The '30s had seen a record 230 world title fights; in the '40s, World War II lowered the total to 150. But Joe Louis reigned until his retirement, Sugar Ray Robinson emerged as a master, Tony Zale, Rocky Graziano, Jake LaMotta, and Marcel Cerdan enlivened the long-dormant middleweight ranks, and, in the lower weight classes, Ike Williams, Willie Pep, Sandy Saddler, and Manuel Ortiz set new standards of excellence. In addition, Louis-Billy Conn, Zale-Graziano, and Pep-Saddler established themselves as the rivalries against which others would be forever measured.

The world titles in five of boxing's eight original divisions were frozen by the war. Louis, the heavyweight champion, joined the Army and didn't fight from March 1942 to June '46; Gus Lesnevich, the light heavyweight champion, joined the Coast Guard and was inactive from November 1941 to May '46; Zale, the middleweight champion, joined the Navy and failed to defend from November 1941 to September '46; and Freddie "Red" Cochrane, the welterweight champion, joined the Navy and left the ring from July 1941 to February '46. Moreover, there was only one flyweight title fight from 1940 to 1947. Activity in the lightweight, featherweight, and bantamweight divisions was unaffected.

Throughout the first half of the de-

(Continued on page 80)

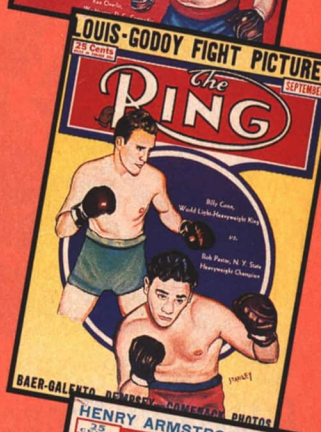


Fighter Of The Decade: Joe Louis— World War II left little time for fistic heroes. But Louis managed 13 defenses of the heavyweight crown before entering the service, and four more after his return. His 25 successful defenses remain an all-time record, and his 1941 rally against Billy Conn ranked with the Schmeling kayo as his finest moment.

World War II disrupted the careers of several world-class fighters and titlists, including popular light heavyweight champion Gus Lesnevich, who missed two ring years while serving his nation in the Coast Guard.

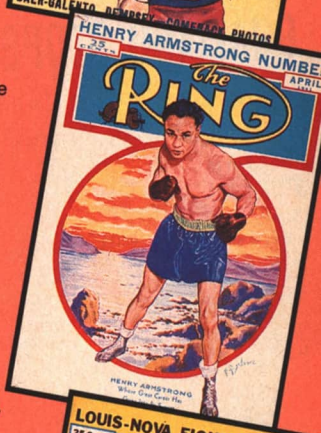
THE COVERS OF *THE RING*

Joe Louis—16
Billy Conn—10
Jack Dempsey—6
Henry Armstrong—5
Gus Lesnevich—5
Tony Zale—5
Jersey Joe Walcott—4
Tami Mauriello—4
Gene Tunney—4
Sugar Ray Robinson—4
Rocky Graziano—4



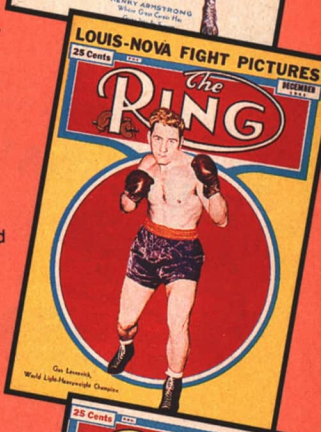
September 1940:

A proponent of participatory journalism, Nat Fleischer referees and subsequently reports on the Jack Dempsey-Cowboy Luttrell boxer-wrestler match. One issue later, Fleischer files from Baltimore, where he referees the featherweight title match between Harry Jeffra and Spider Armstrong.



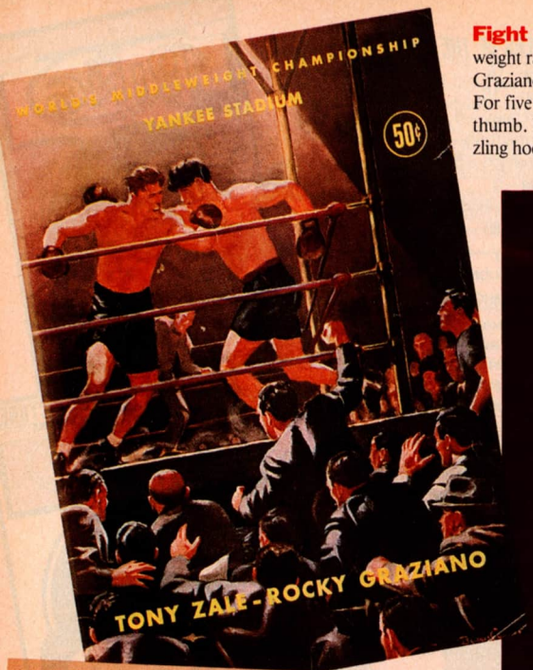
July 1941:

The first story on Sugar Ray Robinson. Curt Horrman pens "Champ In The Making," in which he predicts that Robinson will be crowned lightweight king. Five years later, Sugar Ray would be crowned welter champ.

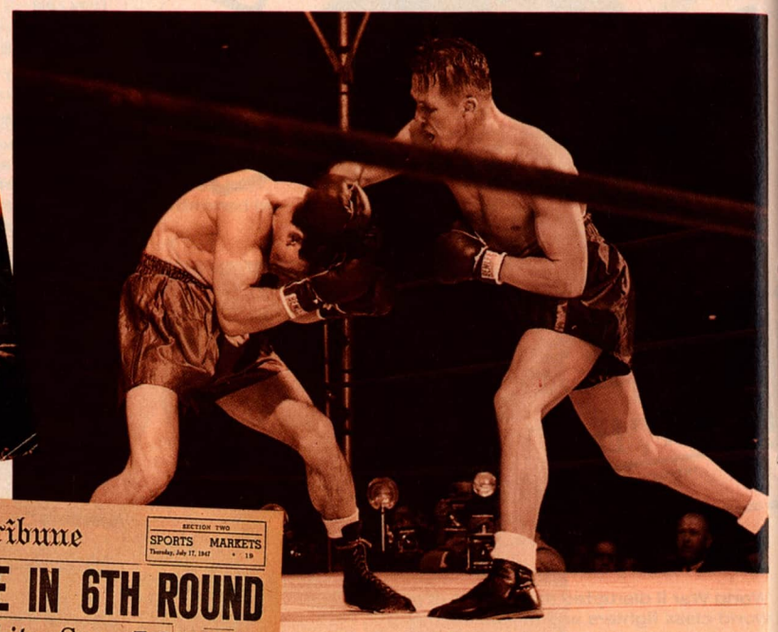


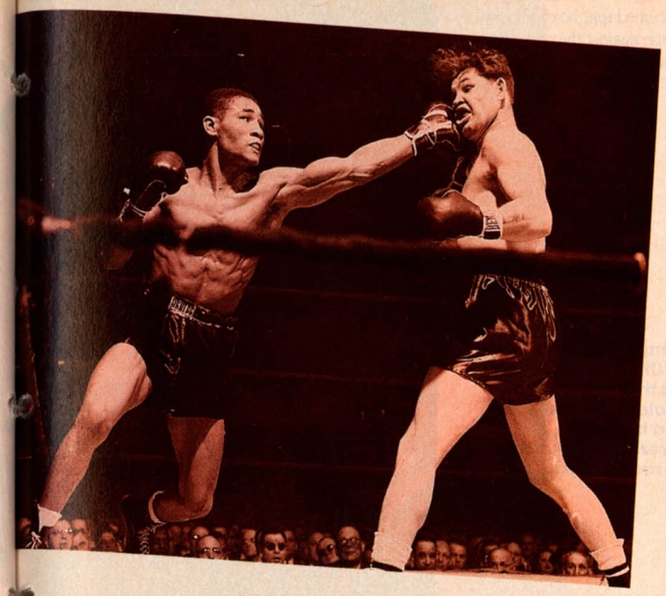
December 1941:

In "New Faces," Harvey Thorne hypes Connecticut featherweight Willie Pep. In the next issue, Ezzard Charles, incorrectly billed as a middleweight from Cleveland, is featured. (Charles hailed from Cincinnati.)



Fight Of The Decade: Tony Zale KO 6 Rocky Graziano—In the all-time middleweight rankings, historians rate Zale far ahead of Graziano. Before chapter one of their trilogy, however, Graziano was made a 2-1 favorite. He was 24 and streaking, while Zale was 33 and clearly past his prime. For five rounds, the challenger punished Zale, who endured despite a bloodied face and a broken right thumb. In the sixth, Zale mustered the strength to land a savage body blow. He followed up with a sizzling hook, and the Rock went down for the count.





Among the fistic heroes of the '40s was lightweight Beau Jack, shown sticking Al "Bummy" Davis during their battle at Madison Square Garden in March 1944. Jack, a Garden favorite, won by decision.

Chicago Daily Tribune

SUPerior 0200
SUPerior 0260
SUPerior 0100

SECTION TWO
SPORTS MARKETS

GRAZIANO STOPS TONY ZALE IN 6TH ROUND

Cubs Lose, 6-3; Boston Routs White Sox, 7-2

STRANAHAN, WARD WIN IN WESTERN GOLF

Frank Carried 22 Holes by Beal

BY CHARLES BARTLETT

In the WAKE of the NEWS

BY ARCH WARD

Giants Chase Borowy with 4 Runs in 8th

CHICAGO PICKS UP 2 IN 9TH TO EVADE SHUTOUT

Ted Williams Hits 16th Home Run

230th Loss for Red

NEW CHAMPION!

BY IRVING VAUGHAN

18,547 CROWD PACKS STADIUM FOR TITLE BOUT

Place Receipts in Excess of $400,000

BY WILFRID SMITH

Fritzie Zivic (left) and Freddie Cochrane, two of the decade's welterweight champions, pose before their non-title clash in September 1942. Zivic won on points.

Manuel Ortiz

May 1942:

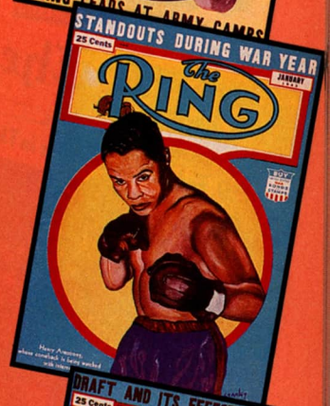
A sign of the times: The cover features America's favorite fighter, Gen. Douglas MacArthur. For the next 3½ years, there is a red-white-and-blue reminder on every cover to "Buy United States Defense Bonds And Stamps."

June 1942:

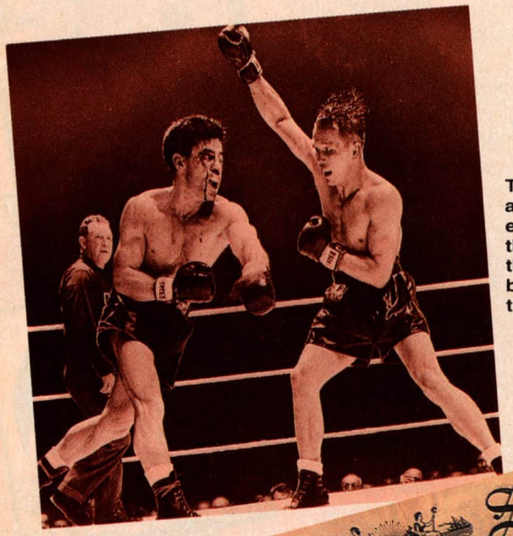
Sugar Ray Robinson's first cover; an era begins as *The Ring* publishes an advertisement for its first *Record Book And Encyclopedia*, dated 1941. Publication continues annually until 1986.

January 1943:

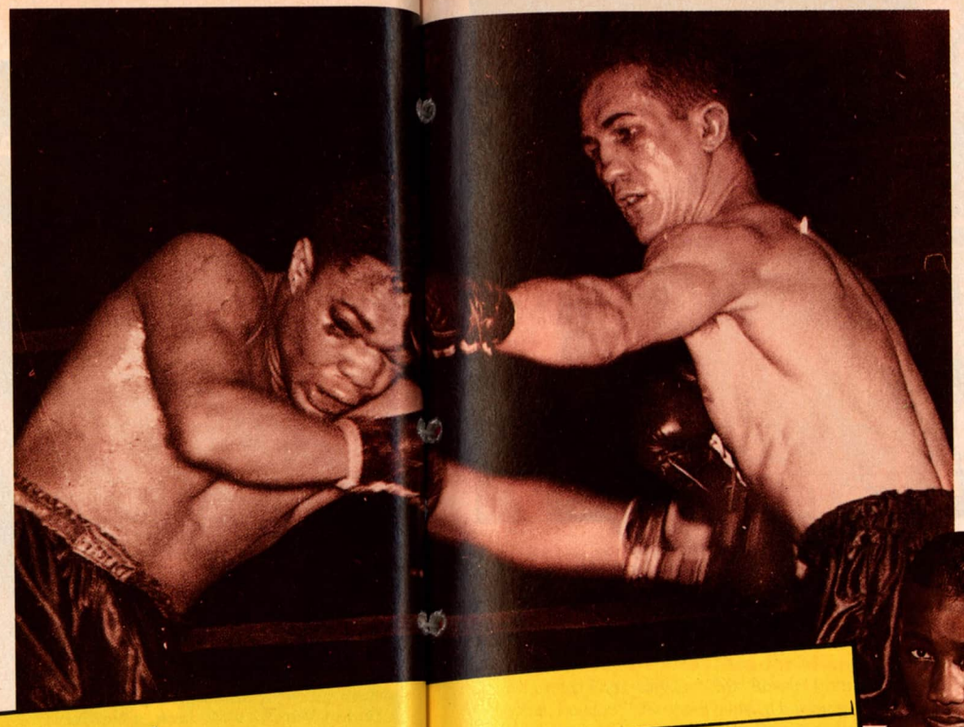
A full-page ad for a new film, *Gentleman Jim*, starring Errol Flynn and Alexis Smith. The movie is a biography of former heavyweight champion James J. Corbett.

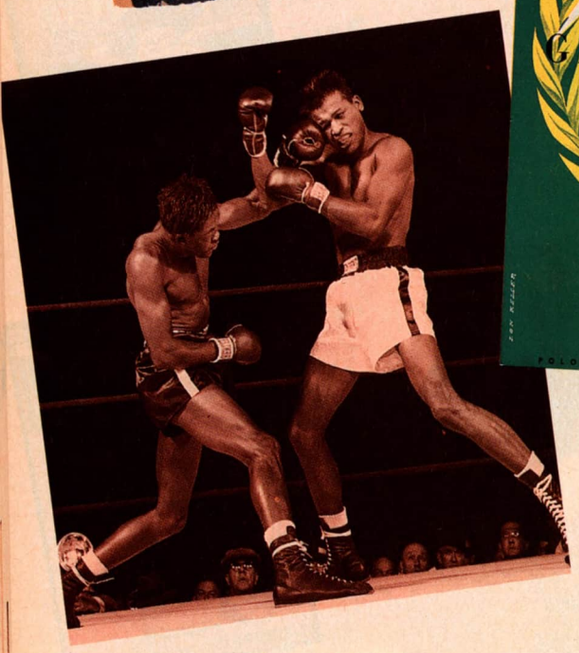


Upset Of The Decade: Fritzie Zivic W 15 Henry Armstrong—As Armstrong's career progressed, his eyes became more and more susceptible to cuts. Still, it seemed that boxing's most successful welterweight title reign would last forever, or at least through a defense against the crude Zivic, who had already suffered 24 losses. But Zivic, noted for his dirty tactics, kept away and boxed (right), and by the eighth round, both of Armstrong's eyes were bloody and swollen. Zivic took a unanimous decision, and stopped Armstrong in the rematch three months later.



Tony Zale and Rocky Graziano fought three times and established their rivalry as the most violent in history. In their second bout (left), a bloodied Graziano took the title by sixth-round kayo.





Those who argue that Sugar Ray Robinson peaked at welterweight point to his two victories over future champion Kid Gavilan as evidence. In their first bout, a non-title fight in September 1948, Robinson won a 10-round decision.

Sandy Saddler

September 1943:

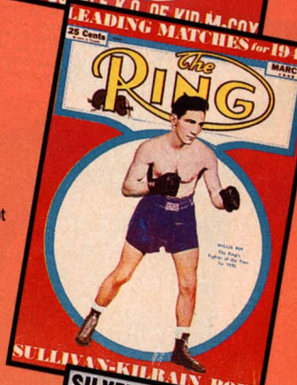
The lead story tells it all: "War Cuts Deeply Into Boxing Ranks; 31 Current Or Former World Champs In Armed Forces." Reports from around the globe are written by and about privates, corporals, and sergeants. *The Ring* is shipped overseas throughout the war, and serves as an enjoyable distraction for Allied soldiers in Europe, Africa, and the Pacific.

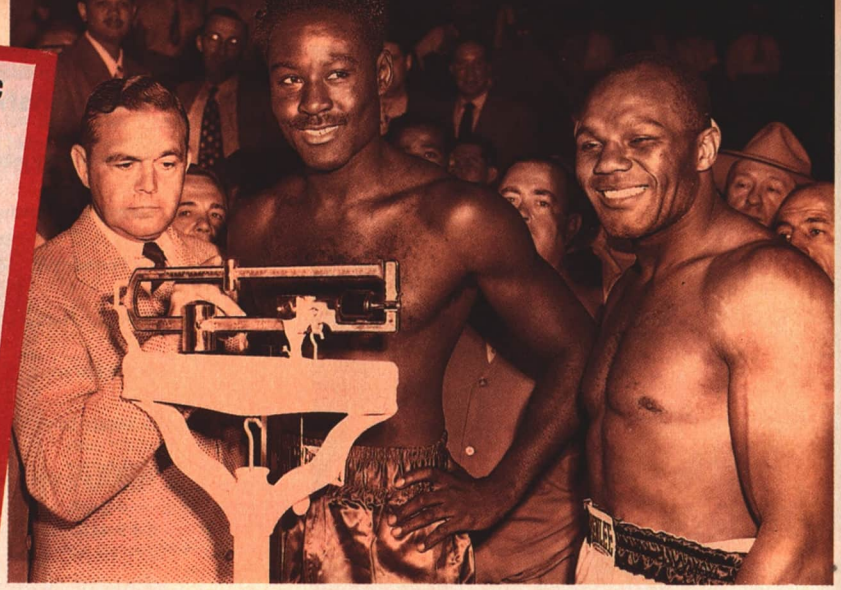
March 1946:

The first of five consecutive issues previewing the heavyweight title fight rematch between Joe Louis and Billy Conn. As it turns out, the fight does not live up to the hype, with Louis scoring an uneventful eighth-round kayo.

March 1947:

The "Silver Jubilee" 25th anniversary issue. On the cover are the best of the best: Louis, Tunney, Dempsey, Greb, Leonard, and Armstrong.





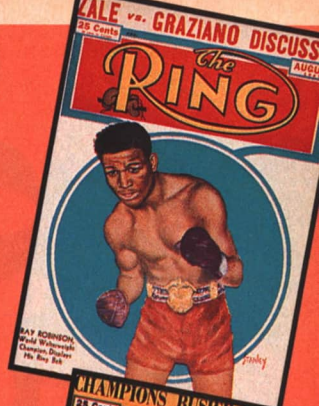
After the retirement of Joe Louis, Ezzard Charles and Jersey Joe Walcott (right) were chosen to battle for the vacant heavyweight throne. In June 1949, Charles decisioned Walcott over 15 rounds. He would win the rematch, but then lose two subsequent title fights to Jersey Joe.

Jake LaMotta

Personality Of The Decade: Mike Jacobs—Described in a United Press story as " 'Mr. Boxing' from Honolulu to Harringay Arena, London," Jacobs dominated boxing as no other promoter ever had. "Uncle Mike" was a former Broadway ticket broker and advisor to Tex Rickard. He became a full-time promoter in 1934, and aligned himself with Joe Louis. For most of the next 12 years, he capitalized on his relationship with Louis to monopolize the heavyweight title—and the rest of the game.

August 1947:

In "New York Loses Prestige," author Daniel M. Daniel analyzes the shift of world title fights from the Big Apple to other American cities. If he thought it was bad in 1947 . . .

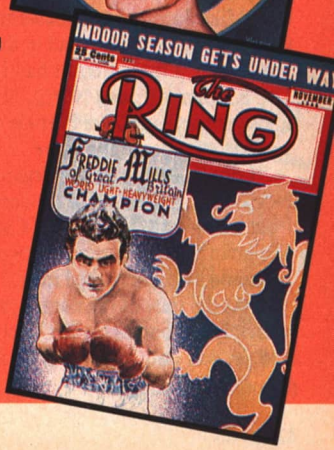


February 1948:

The first winner of the annual Rookie of the Year award: middleweight Laverne Roach.

November 1948:

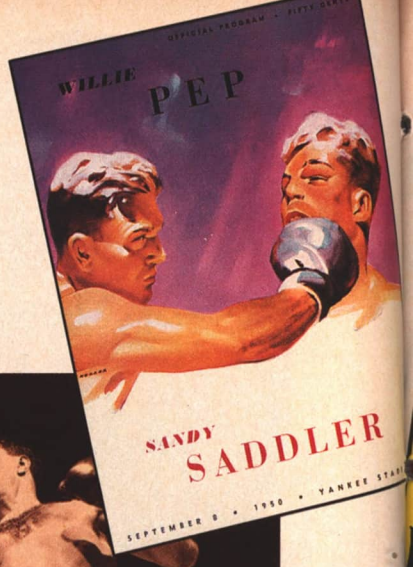
Another story ahead of its time: "Ring Video Involves Serious Problems; Twentieth Century's Decision Not To Telecast Big Cards 'Kills Gate,' They Insist," by Daniel M. Daniel. The first, but not the last, story about TV's negative effect on live boxing.

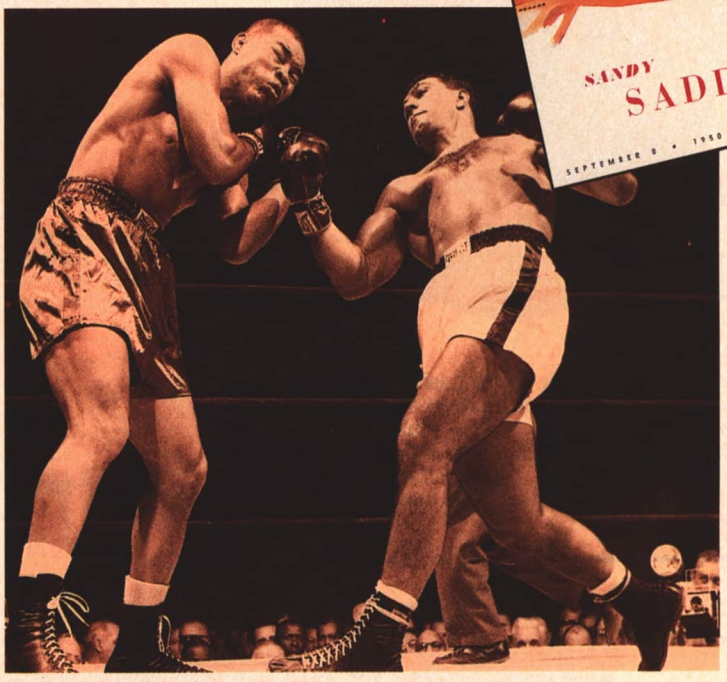


1950s

THE '50s ALL-STAR TEAM

Heavyweight: Rocky Marciano
Light Heavyweight: Archie Moore
Middleweight: Sugar Ray Robinson
Welterweight: Kid Gavilan
Lightweight: Joe Brown
Featherweight: Sandy Saddler
Bantamweight: Jimmy Carruthers
Flyweight: Pascual Perez





Time passes: In October 1951, rising heavyweight Rocky Marciano kayos 37-year-old legend Joe Louis in eight rounds. It would be the last fight of Louis' brilliant career.

At the dawn of the second half of the century, boxing seemed determined to change—for better or worse. By the end of the '50s, the transformation was complete, and any similarities to the days of Dempsey and Louis were coincidental. As was the case in the real world, the age of innocence was over.

● At the start of the decade, even those in boxing who understood the potential of television weren't sure if the income it could generate was worth the trouble. By the end, the medium had become the message, and fans had to distinguish between TV stars, like Tony Janiro and Chuck Davey, and boxing stars, like Rocky Marciano and Archie Moore.

● At the start of the decade, Jim Norris, a millionaire with blue blood but questionable business associates, had begun to build the International Boxing Club, a promotional firm that would dominate the sport even more completely than Mike Jacobs and his Twentieth Century Sporting Club had in the '40s. By the end, a federal court had ruled the IBC a monopoly, and Norris, linked to underworld figures like Frankie Carbo, was forced to leave the game.

"I don't want to be sacrilegious," Norris said at the time of his departure, "but I would say that even if Cardinal Spellman got into boxing, in two weeks he would be a discredited man."

● At the start of the decade, a fighter was only as good as his left hook. By the end, he was only as good as his attorney.

(Continued on page 84)

Chicago Daily Tribune

ROBINSON WINS LAMOTTA'S TITLE

Rangers Defeat Black Hawks, 5

In the WAKE of the NEWS

BLACK'S GOAL IN 3D PERIOD KILLS SHUTOUT

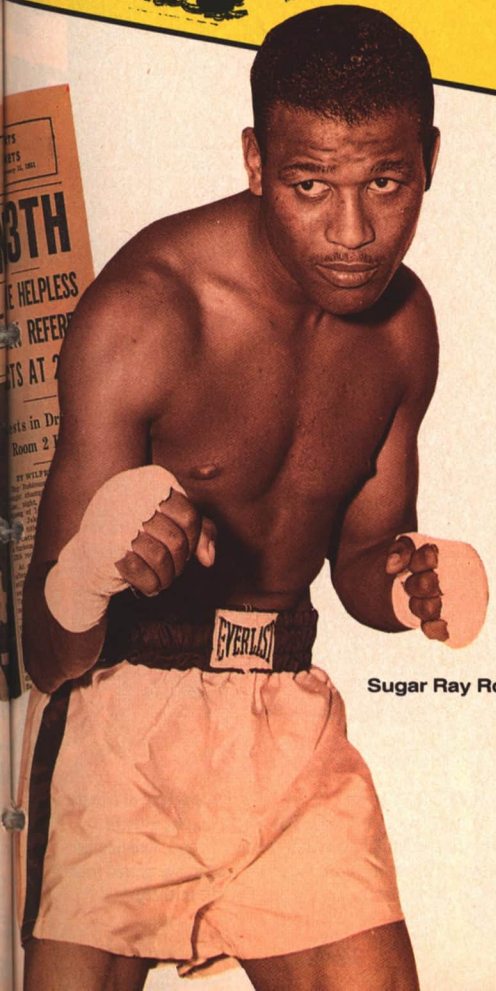
Blow-by-Blow of Le Boxe Is Sent to France

Play Again Tonight in Stadium

Hockey Standings

LA MOTTA STAGGERS UNDER A RIGHT

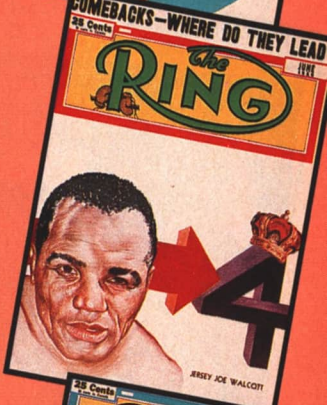
Fighter Of The Decade: Sugar Ray Robinson—Robinson lost the middleweight title three times in the '50s, and still managed to establish himself as the greatest fighter of all-time. His biggest victories came against Jake LaMotta, Bobo Olson, Randy Turpin, Gene Fullmer, and Carmen Basilio, champions all. It can be argued that he was a better fighter in the previous decade, but in the '50s, Robinson boxed, punched, and took a punch, and nobody ever did it better.



Sugar Ray Robinson

THE COVERS OF *THE RING*

Rocky Marciano—18
Sugar Ray Robinson—18
Floyd Patterson—14
Carmen Basilio—12
Ezzard Charles—9
Archie Moore—8
Bobo Olson—8
Jack Dempsey—6
Randy Turpin—5
Ingemar Johansson—5
Jersey Joe Walcott—5
Joe Louis—4
Jimmy Carter—4
Gene Fullmer—4



February 1950:

In "New Faces," Jersey Jones spotlights George Kaplan, Jimmy Flood, and a slugging heavyweight from Brockton, Massachusetts, Rocky Marciano. "Marciano unquestionably can punch," Jones writes, "but from the little we have seen of him so far, he'd have difficulty hitting anyone who knew anything about boxing."

MARCIANO KNOCKS OUT LOUIS IN EIGHTH ROUND

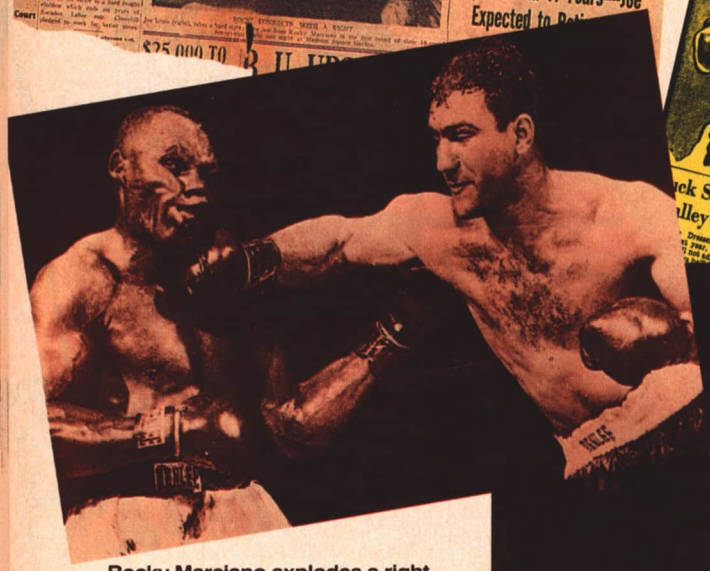
Brockton's Rocky Stuns Huge Madison Square Garden Crowd by Battering Ex-Champion Out of Ring—Referee Steps In to Save Helpless Brown Bomber—Eight-Count Knockdown Sets Up Thrilling Finish—Near Capacity Throng Goes Wild at Sensational Upset

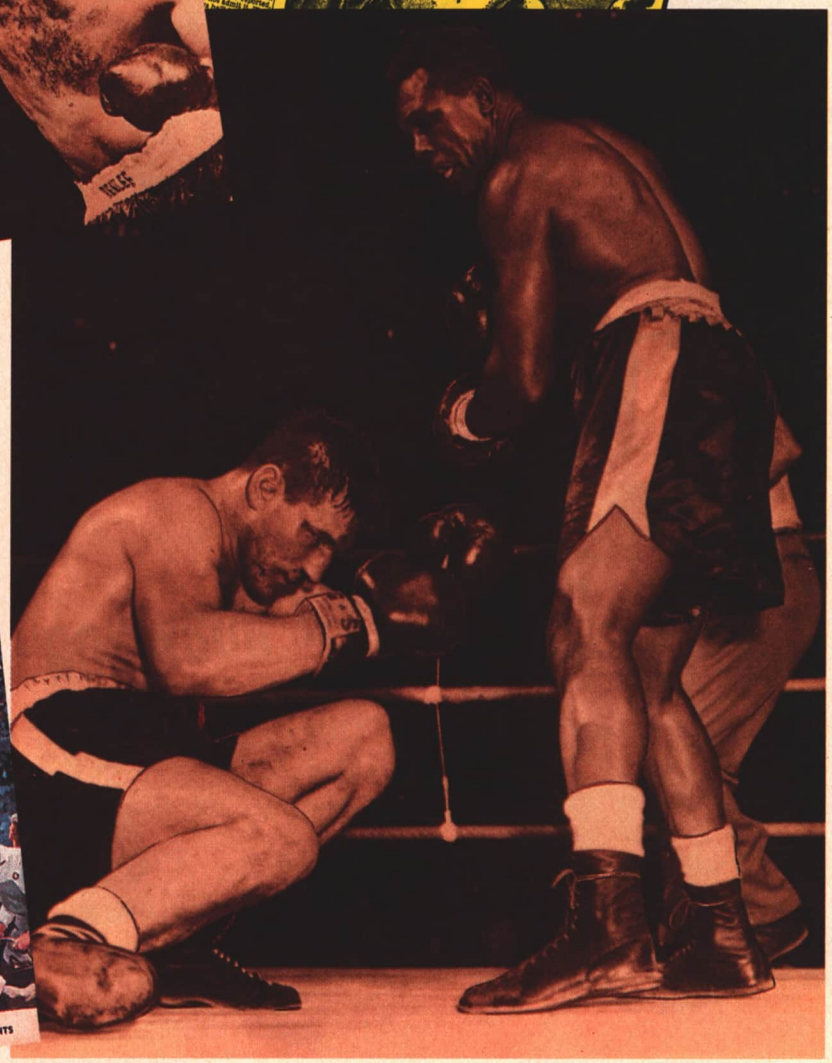
CHURCHILL TAKES HELM IN ENGLAND

With Eden, Starts to Pick Cabinet in London

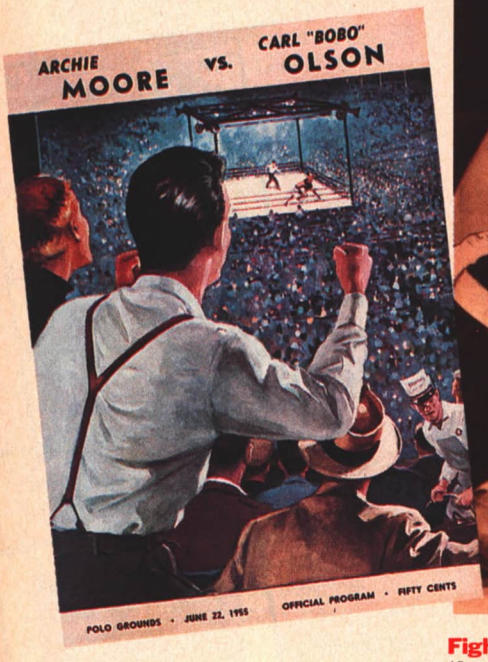
Bay State Fans Swarm Around Ringside to Cheer Husky Battler From Shoe City

Knockout Only 2nd Suffered by Louis in 17 Years—Joe Expected to Re...





Rocky Marciano explodes a right off the jaw of champion Jersey Joe Walcott during their heavyweight title fight in September 1952. The Rock took the title by dramatic 13th-round kayo.



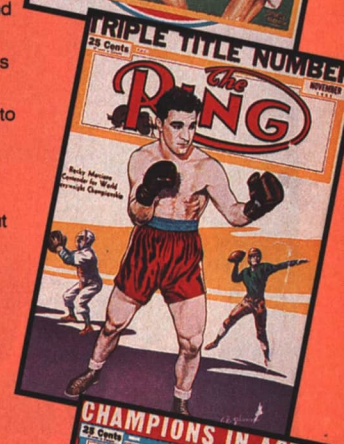
Fight Of The Decade: Archie Moore KO 11 Yvon Durelle—The miracle of Moore, 45 and the reigning light heavyweight champion, was never more evident. The free-swinging Durelle, fighting before his fans at the Montreal Forum, scored three knockdowns in the first round, and another in the fifth. But Moore gained control in the sixth, and, before finishing the 3½-1 underdog, scored four knockdowns of his own. Archie got better with age: In the rematch, he stopped Durelle in three.

In April 1953, Jimmy Carter retained the world lightweight title with a fourth-round kayo of Tommy Collins in Boston.

Sugar Ray Robinson

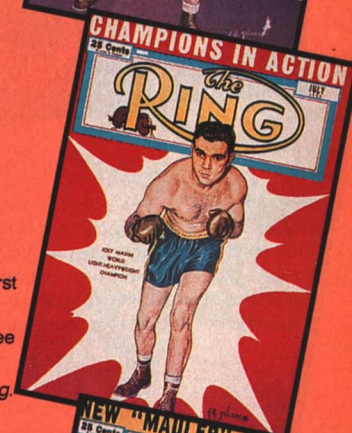
October 1951:

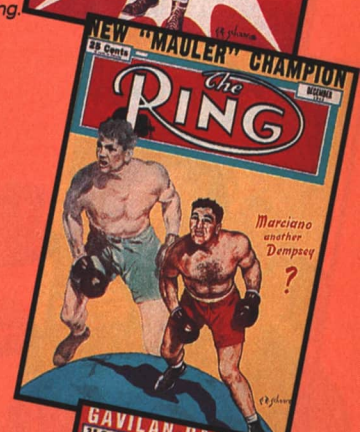
A full page advertises Jeff Chandler (no, not *that* Jeff Chandler) in an upcoming boxing movie titled *Iron Man*, co-starring Rock Hudson and Evelyn Keyes. Among the blurbs: "She bought his fighting fists with kisses and sold them for cash," and "Sure I'm his brother . . . but he's just a meal ticket to me!" We know what you're asking: Is this one available on video?; the debut of a monthly column, "Television & Boxing," by Johnny Salak.



July 1952:

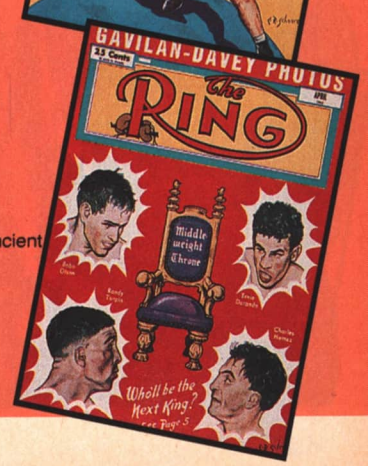
Puerto Rico's Mario Rivera Martino pens his first story. In the next few months, Australia's Ray Mitchell and Germany's Jack Tree receive their first bylines. Almost 40 years later, all three correspondents remain with *The Ring*.

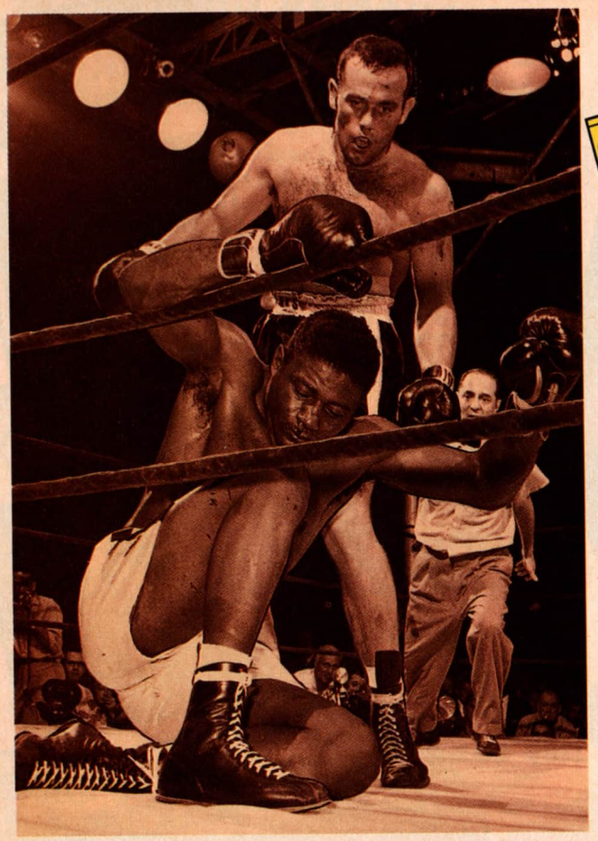




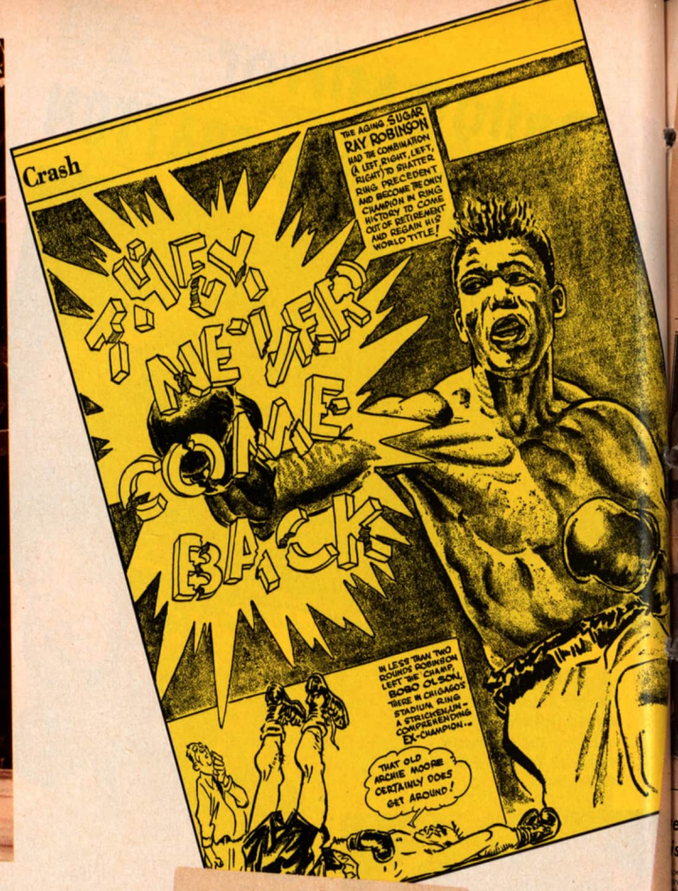
April 1953:

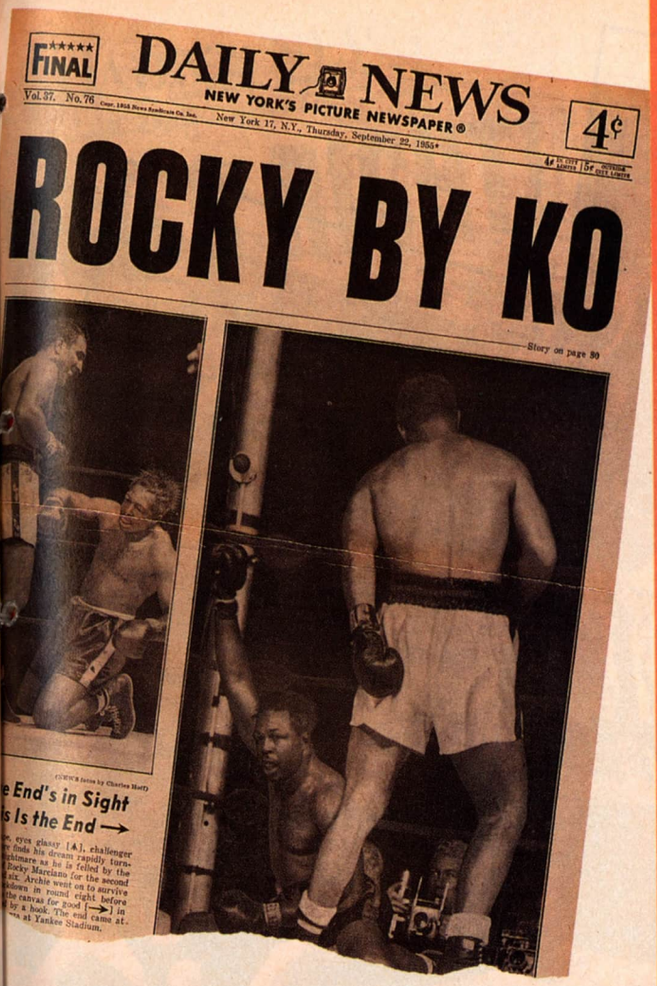
The Ring sees the future: "Foot Fighting Is Here" examines the ancient Thai sport that is today known as kickboxing.





Upset Of The Decade: Ingemar Johansson KO 3 Floyd Patterson—Perhaps recalling that at the 1952 Olympics Johansson had been disqualified for not fighting, oddsmakers established defending heavyweight champion Patterson as a 5-1 favorite. For two rounds, there was no reason to anticipate an upset. But in the third, Johansson landed his big right, and after no less than seven knockdowns, Patterson was rescued by referee Ruby Goldstein.




FINAL

DAILY NEWS

NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER

Vol. 37, No. 76 Copr. 1955 News Syndicate Co. Inc. New York 17, N.Y., Thursday, September 22, 1955

4¢

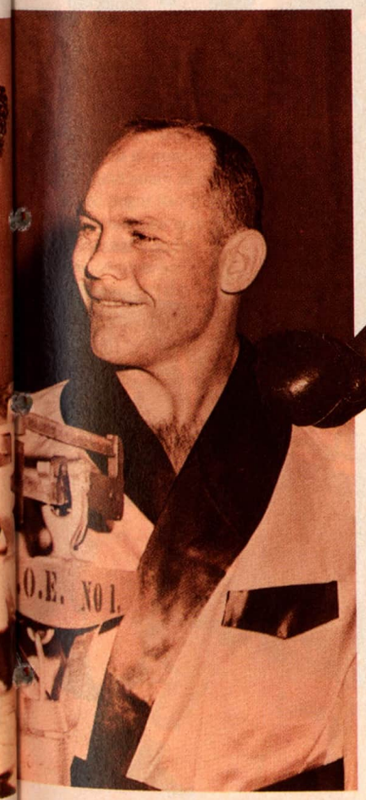
ROCKY BY KO

Story on page 99

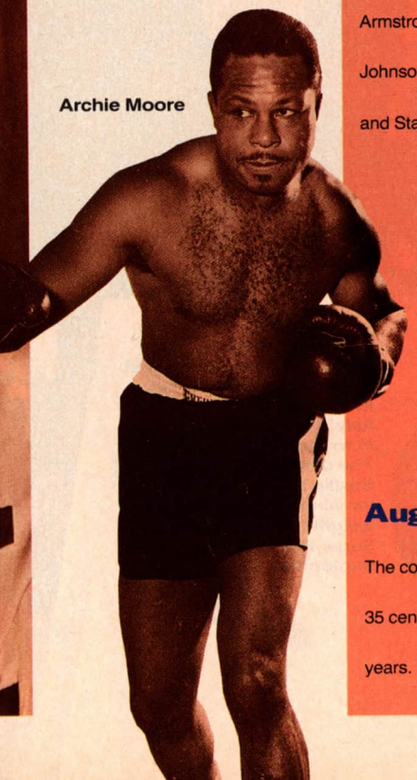
e End's in Sight
s Is the End →

Pascual Perez

History was made in August 1957, when Olympic gold medalist Pete Rademacher, making his pro debut, challenged Floyd Patterson for the heavyweight title. Patterson won in six rounds.



Archie Moore



July 1954:

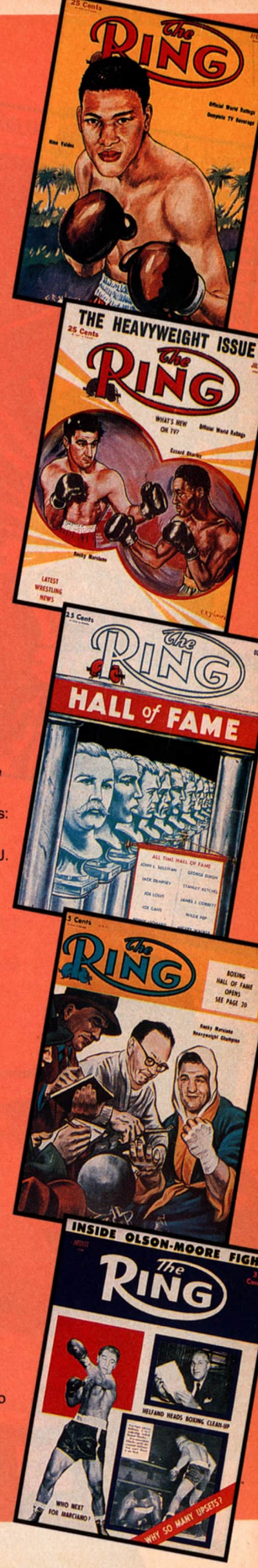
Yogi Berra pens a story, and, two issues later, another New York Yankee, Irv Noren, contributes a feature. In June 1956, a third Yankee, the combative Billy Martin, chips in with "That Fighting Spirit."

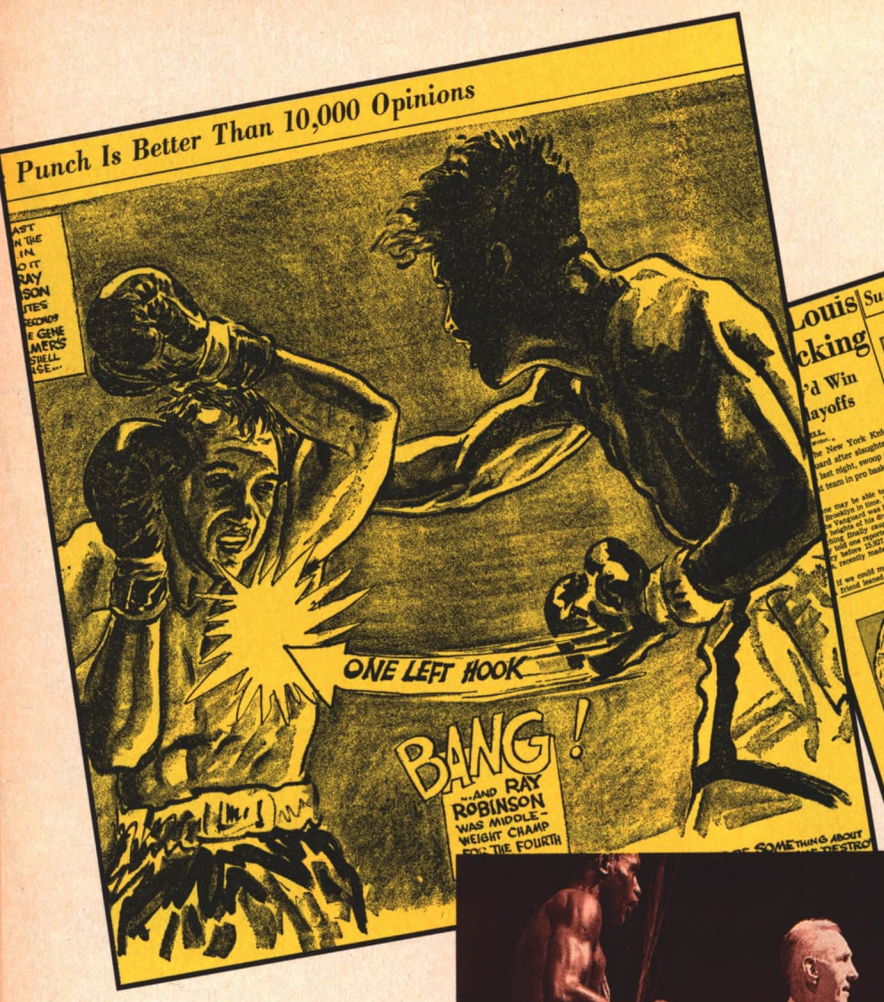
October 1954:

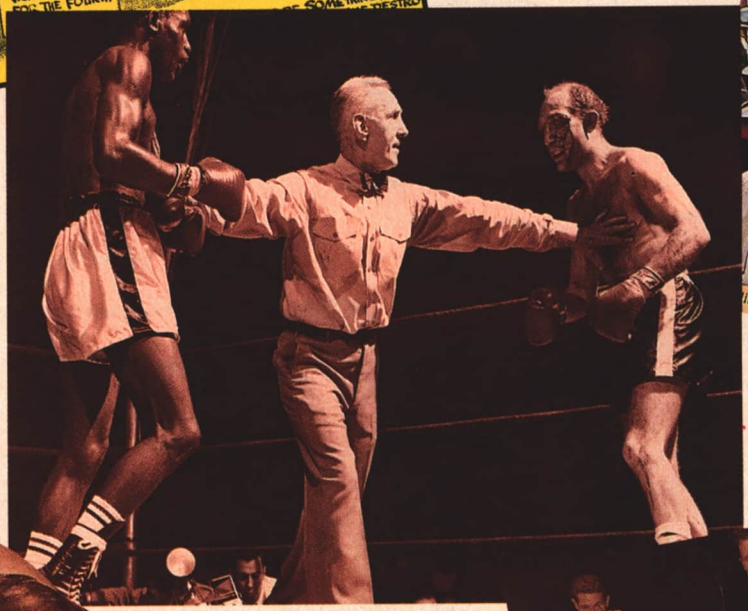
The Ring opens boxing's first Hall of Fame in its offices at Madison Square Garden. Among the original inductees: John L. Sullivan, Harry Greb, James J. Corbett, George Dixon, Henry Armstrong, Jack Dempsey, Jack Johnson, Benny Leonard, Joe Gans, and Stanley Ketchel.

August 1955:

The cover price rises from 25 cents to 35 cents. It is the first increase in 22 years.

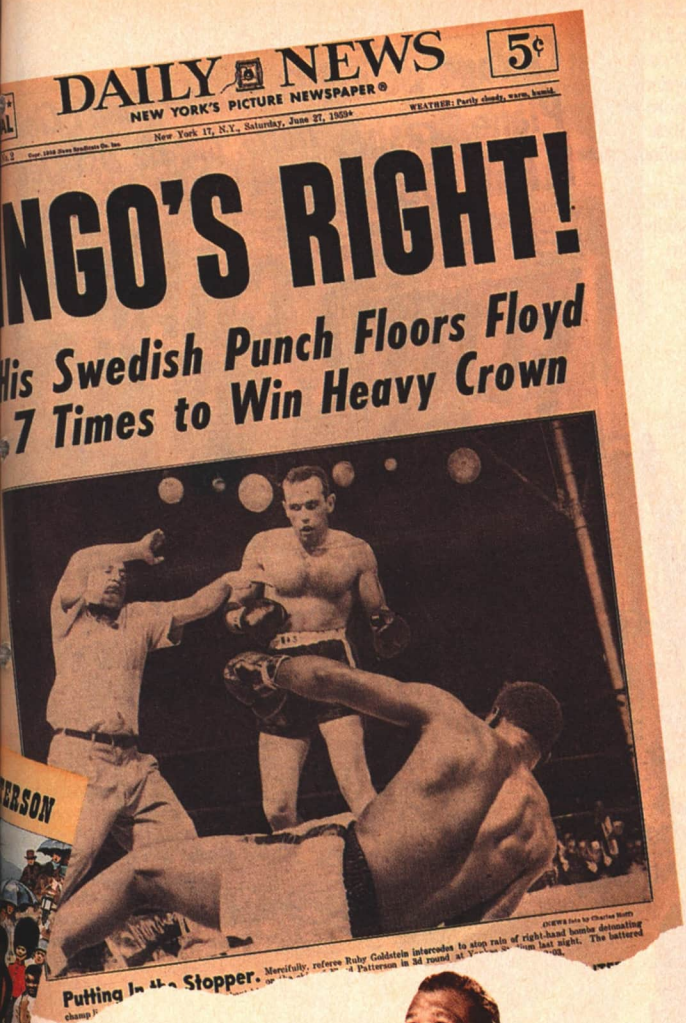






Sonny Liston

Lightweight Joe Brown enjoyed one of the longest reigns in division history. In June 1959, he stopped Italy's Paolo Rosi on cuts in round eight (above). The diminutive Carmen Basilio kneels in prayer after winning the middleweight title by outpointing Sugar Ray Robinson in September 1957 (right).


DAILY NEWS
NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER
5¢
New York 17, N.Y., Saturday, June 27, 1959
WEATHER: Partly cloudy, warm, humid

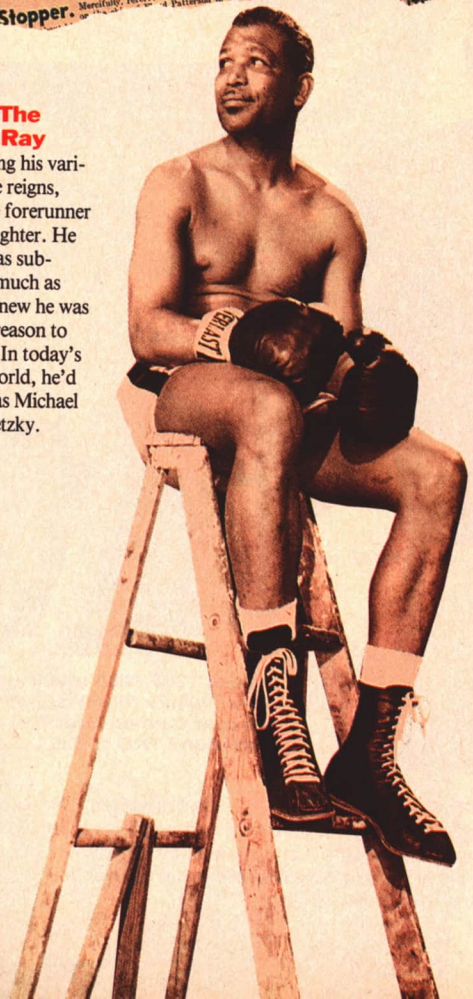
NGO'S RIGHT!

His Swedish Punch Floors Floyd
7 Times to Win Heavy Crown

ERSON

Putting In the Stopper. Mercifully, referee Ruby Goldstein intercedes to stop rain of right-hand bombs detonating

Personality Of The Decade: Sugar Ray Robinson—During his various middleweight title reigns, Robinson became the forerunner for the modern-day fighter. He valued style as much as substance, and salary as much as strategy. Sugar Ray knew he was the best, and saw no reason to keep himself a secret. In today's athlete-as-superstar world, he'd fit in as comfortably as Michael Jordan or Wayne Gretzky.



September 1955:

Author Thomas Harking questions whether Russian athletes should be allowed to compete on equal terms with American amateurs at the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne, Australia. According to Harking, International Olympic Committee President Avery Brundidge said that in touring Russia, he "didn't find too much evidence" that the amateurs were state-supported.

October 1956:

Nat Fleischer publishes a confession, dated January 2, 1916, in which Jack Johnson claims to have thrown his 1915 title fight vs. Jess Willard. Fleischer, who had bought the confession almost 40 years ago from a money-strapped Johnson for $250, did not believe it to be true.

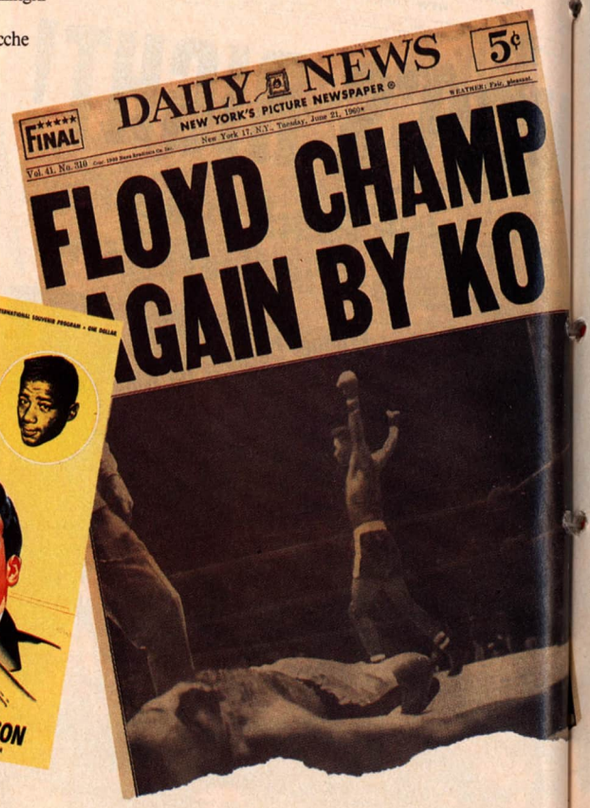
January 1957:

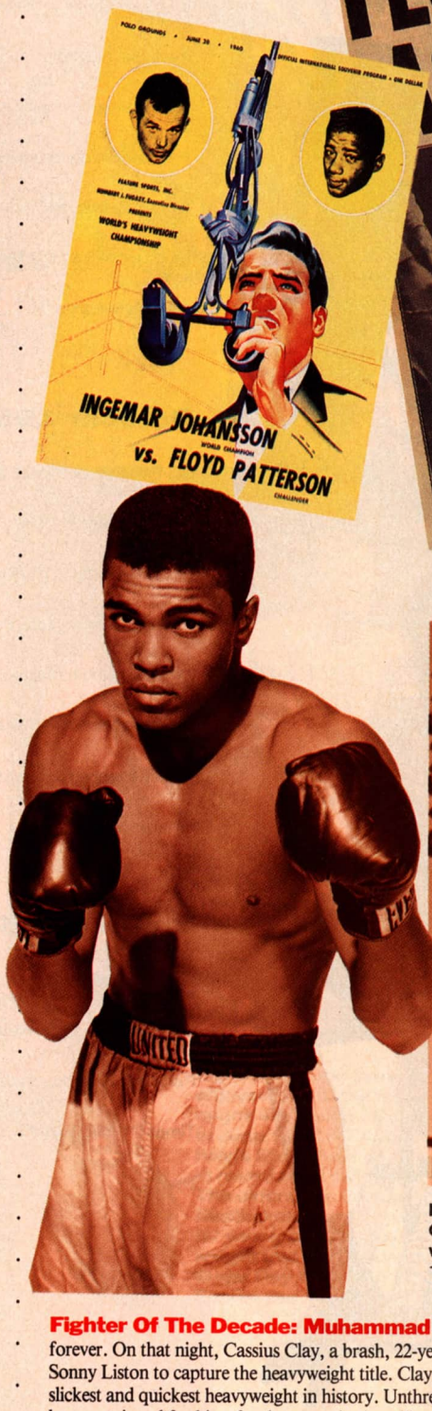
Lester Bromberg pens "Junior Titles; Secondary Champs Were The Particular By-Products Of Their Times." What does that say about *our* time?

1960s

THE '60s ALL-STAR TEAM

Heavyweight: Muhammad Ali
Light Heavyweight: Bob Foster
Middleweight: Nino Benvenuti
Junior Middleweight: Sandro Mazzinghi
Welterweight: Emile Griffith
Junior Welterweight: Nicolino Locche
Lightweight: Carlos Ortiz
Junior Lightweight: Flash Elorde
Featherweight: Vicente Saldivar
Bantamweight: Eder Jofre
Flyweight: Pone Kingpetch





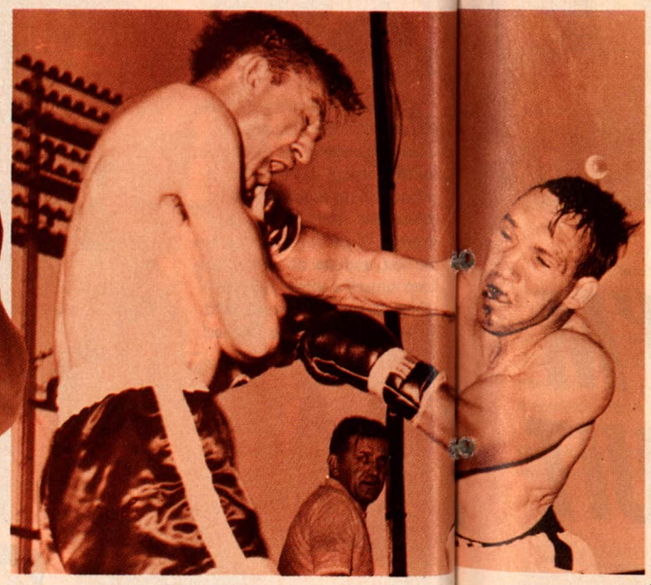
The '50s was a time of peace and quiet, with a true-blue hero, Dwight D. Eisenhower, serving as father-figure to the nation. The '60s, however, would be like no other decade in history. Americans would reexamine themselves in a changing world, and by 1970, peace and quiet would be a distant dream.

The '60s had many faces: Cuba and civil rights and Vietnam and assassinations and Woodstock and the moon landing. But in boxing, one face, first brown, then black, but always pretty, would symbolize the decade. That face, of course, belonged to Cassius Clay/Muhammad Ali.

Measured against the decades before and after, boxing in the '60s seems inferior. Blame Ali's dominance; there wasn't room for anyone else. In a different time, champions like Bob Foster, Emile Griffith, Dick Tiger, Jose Napoles, Nicolino Locche, Eder Jofre, and Ruben Olivares might have been elevated to superstar status. Instead, they were appreciated only by hard-core fans. Conversely, Ali demanded the attention of the whole wide world.

In September 1962, Sonny Liston dethroned Floyd Patterson as heavyweight champion. The change was startling. An Olympic hero, Patterson had been a ghetto nightmare saved by the American dream. Liston, on the other hand, was distant and brooding, a former mob enforcer whose image was defined solely by the violence he brought to the ring.

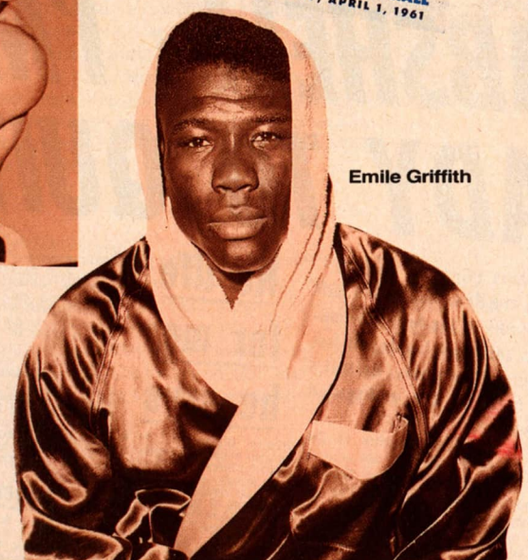
(Continued on page 86)



In June 1960, NBA middleweight king Gene Fullmer (right) repeated his 1959 win over Carmen Basilio by scoring a 12th-round TKO in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Fighter Of The Decade: Muhammad Ali—On February 25, 1964, boxing was changed forever. On that night, Cassius Clay, a brash, 22-year-old gold medalist, stopped prohibitive favorite Sonny Liston to capture the heavyweight title. Clay, who immediately became Muhammad Ali, was the slickest and quickest heavyweight in history. Unthreatened in nine defenses, his prime was cut short when he was stripped for his refusal to serve in the military.

Perhaps the most underrated champion of the decade was bantamweight Eder Jofre, a brilliant boxer/puncher from Brazil. Above, Jofre stops Herman Marquez in May 1962.



Emile Griffith

THE COVERS OF *THE RING*

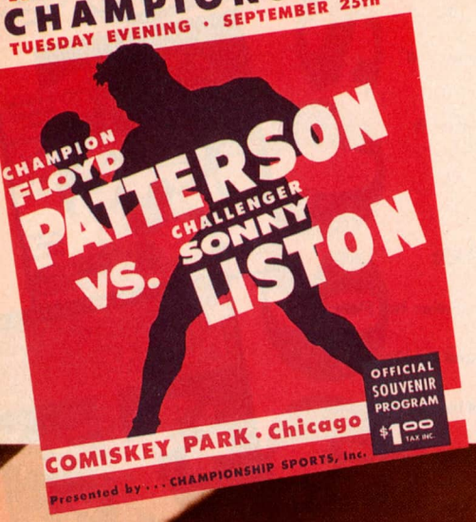
Muhammad Ali—24
Floyd Patterson—20
Sonny Liston—14
Sugar Ray Robinson—8
Emile Griffith—7
Joe Frazier—7
Ingemar Johansson—6
Gene Fullmer—6
Ernie Terrell—6
Paul Pender—5
Dick Tiger—4

July 1960:

Publisher as kingmaker: Nat Fleischer writes "Why I Voted For Kingpetch," an explanation of his scoring of the flyweight title fight between Pascual Perez and Pone Kingpetch in Thailand. Kingpetch took the crown via split decision, with Fleischer's card of 146-140 making the difference. Five issues later, Fleischer takes partial credit for Cassius Clay's gold medal victory in the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome. "I told him that if the fight went beyond two rounds," Fleischer wrote of Clay's final-round match against Poland's Zbigniew Pietrzykowski, "he had to go all-out to win."

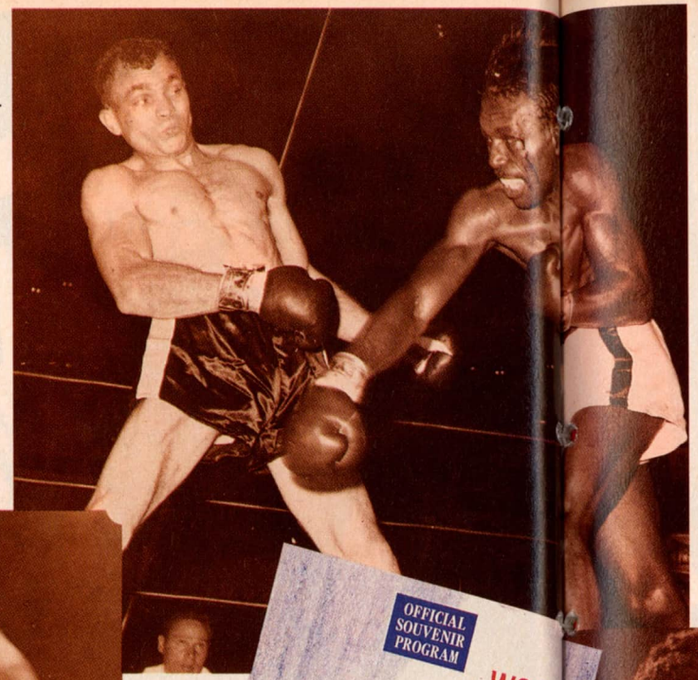
August 1960:

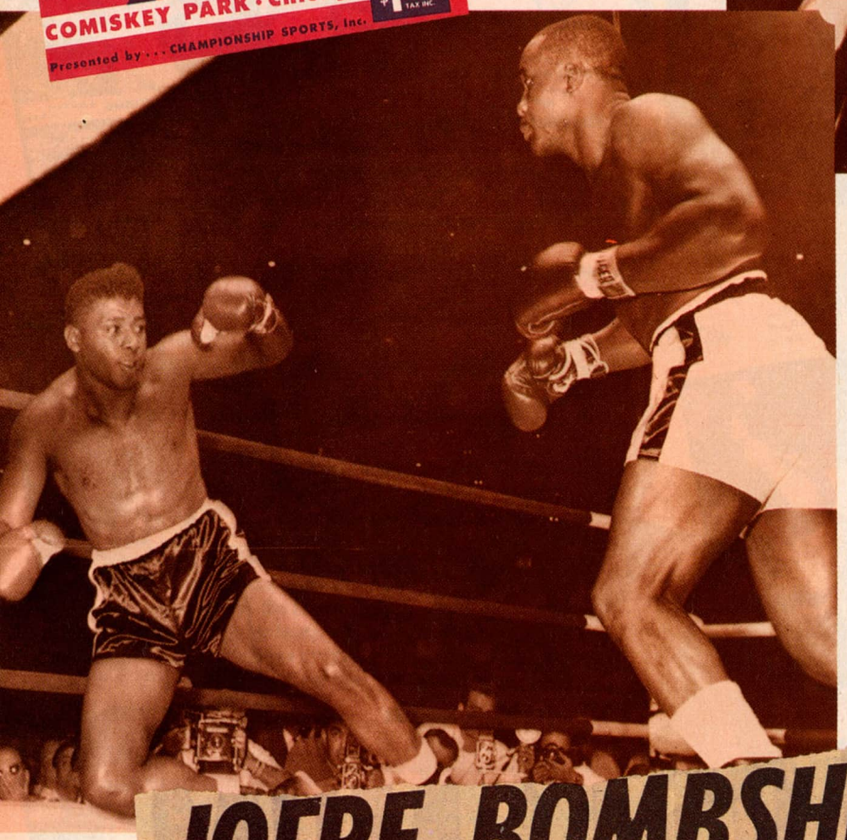
The first photo of Cassius Clay, who is shown bopping Allen Hudson during the Olympic tryouts.

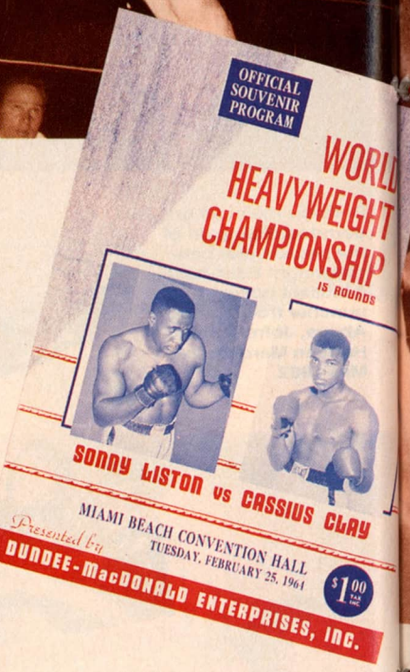


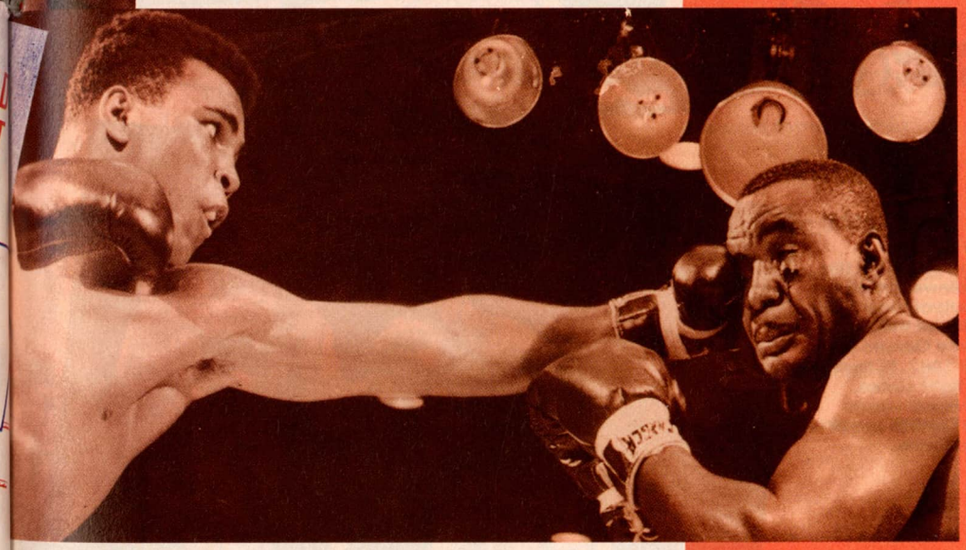
In April 1962, Carlos Ortiz won the lightweight crown with a unanimous 15-round decision over a bloodied Joe Brown (right).

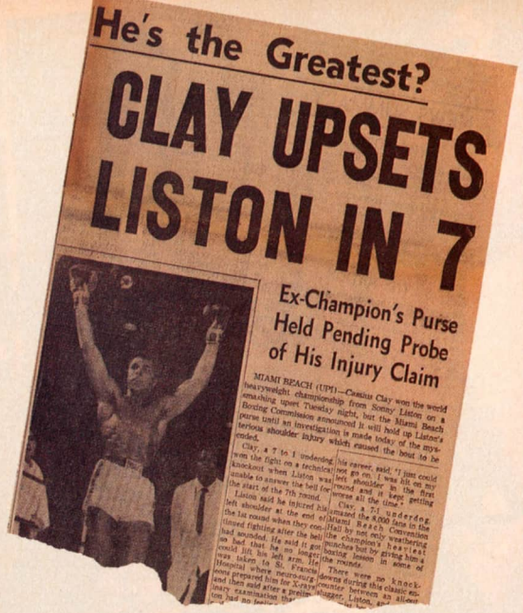
In their first title fight, Floyd Patterson was the defending heavyweight champion, and Sonny Liston the challenger (left). In the rematch, the roles were reversed, but the result was the same, with Liston again winning by first-round kayo (below).





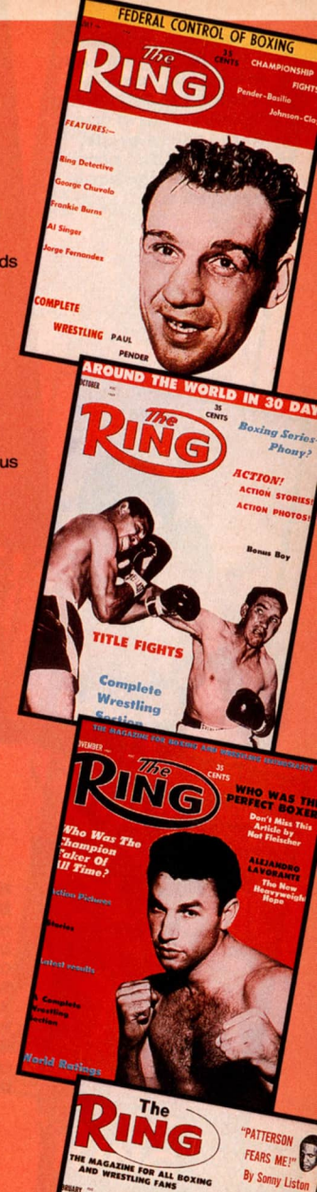






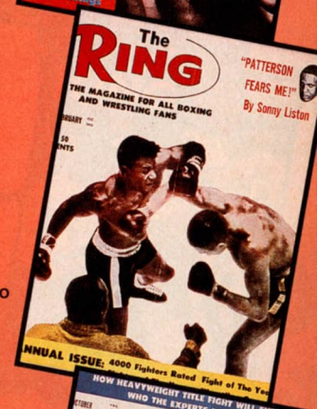
July 1961:

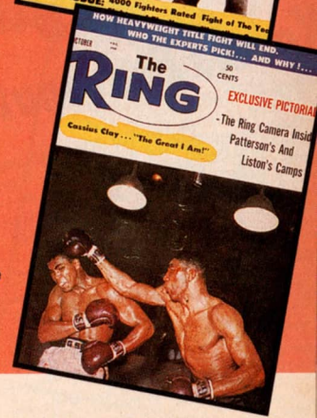
A reprint of a letter sent by Nat Fleischer to Sen. Estes Kefauver, chairman of the Senate Investigating Committee on Boxing. Fleischer pleads his case for federal control.



October 1961:

The first story on Cassius Clay: "Bonus Boy Of Boxing."





JOFRE BOMBSHELL: I'M READY TO QUIT

Sao Paulo (Brazil), Friday.

EDER JOFRE, the Brazilian whom half the world thinks is the best bantamweight alive, has sprung a bombshell less than a week before he meets Belfast's John Caldwell here for the undisputed world championship.

For Jofre, after finishing his sparring at the Academia Brasileira de Pugilismo, announced that he will retire from the ring by next December. It's the old boxing story of "uneasy lies the head that wears the crown."

Jofre says he has had to lead such a dedicated life that the sacrifice of all the fun and entertainment open to a normal man is not worth the money.

He says he has made more than thirty million cruzeiros—over £30,000—but about half that has gone

No life for me, he says

Mickey Walker he is a natural artist and hopes to go in for interior decoration and design—a sufficiently royal occupation currently for a king of the ring!

Meanwhile, what of John Caldwell?

I found that level-headed, quiet young man—who even as an amateur travelled the world on his fists—remarkably composed

television and radio fee of almost exactly £13,000.

With each fighter getting a quarter of all moneys they should each receive about £10,000—plus their share of any money forthcoming from British television.

No world title fight would be complete these days without a hint of some big gamblers in the background and I hear repeated stories of an unnamed Scotsman and an Irishman who have come here to back Caldwell to the limit.

EAGER

They won't find it difficult, for I've been assured that Sao Paulo millionaires are willing to put two or three thousand pounds on Jofre, who I'm told is 2 to

Fight Of The Decade: Cassius Clay KO 7 Sonny Liston—There weren't many great fights in the '60s. Clay-Liston, however, provided drama, surprises, and a sudden ending. Moving swiftly, Clay managed to frustrate the champion. But toward the end of the fourth round, his eyes began to tear, and early in the fifth, he couldn't see at all. (It is believed that liniment rubbed onto Liston's shoulders found its way into Clay's eyes.) Clay danced until fully recovered, and continued to outmaneuver Liston, who quit on his stool after claiming a shoulder injury. "Beethoven wrote some of his greatest symphonies when he was deaf," said Ali cornerman Ferdie Pacheco. "Why couldn't Cassius Clay fight when he was blind?"

Upset Of The Decade: Cassius Clay KO 7 Sonny Liston—Invincible heavyweights are inevitably exposed. Coming off two first-round kayos of Floyd Patterson, heavyweight champion Liston seemed meaner and stronger than any fighter before him. Las Vegas bookmakers reported five times as much wagering on which round Liston would win in than on who would actually win the fight. But 7-1 underdog Clay tamed the beast. Contrary to popular belief, it was a close fight; at the time of the stoppage, the fighters were even on points.

February 1962:

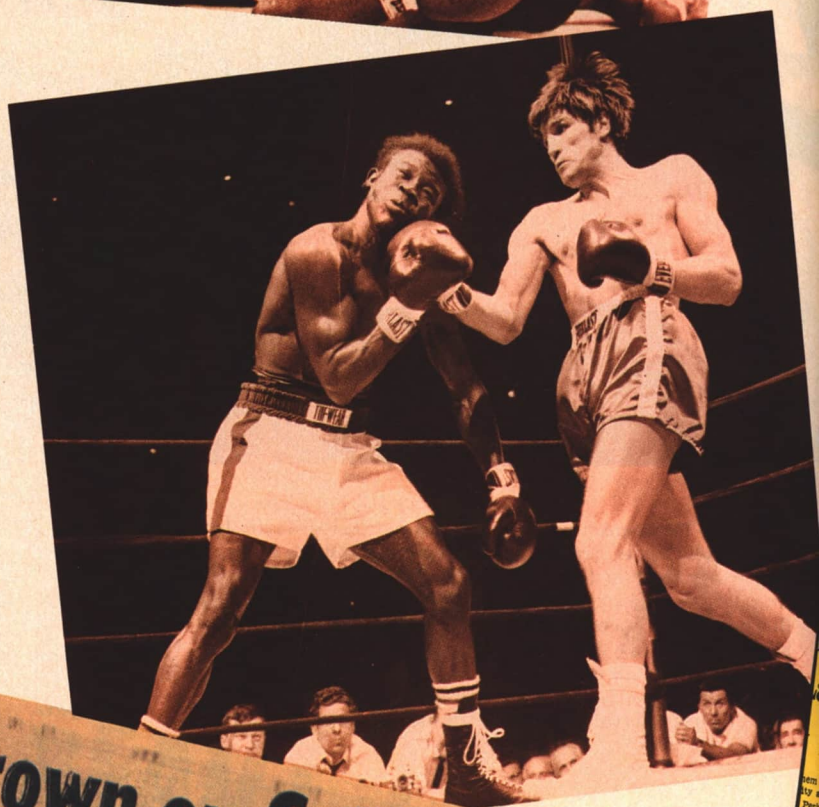
The cover price rises from 35 cents to 50 cents.

October 1962:

Cassius Clay's first cover. Over the next 30 years, he will appear 76 more times.

A shocker: In May 1965, Muhammad Ali retains the heavyweight title by kayoing Sonny Liston in one round with a single right hand that became known as "the phantom punch."

Nino Benvenuti



Italy's Nino Benvenuti wins the middleweight title by outpointing Emile Griffith at Madison Square Garden in April 1967. In their title fight series, Benvenuti would beat Griffith two of three times.

Griff Regains Crown on Split Verdict

Knocks Benvenuti to Canvas in 14th

Jim McCulley

Emile Griffith knocked Nino Benvenuti to the canvas with a right hand in the ...teenth round at Shea Stadium last night and, according to both judges, outboxed ... to regain the world championship he lost to the Italian in the Garden last April. ...referee, Tom Walsh, scored the 15-round title rematch a draw, with the rounds ...at 7-7-1 and seven points for each batter.

...dges Joe Eppy and Johnny Dran scored it 9-5-1 for Emile. ...majority decision seemed to appeal to most of the estimated ...who sat in the damp home of the Mets-Jets to watch the once-

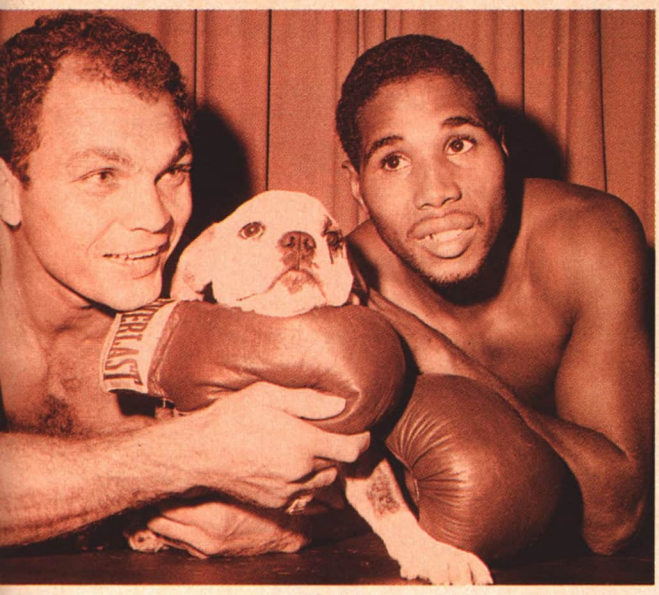
...als' Round-by-Round Cards

...Dran
...Walsh

(7 points for each)

...out. The gate was announced as slightly over $200 ...-pound advantage in the weights, 159¾-15... ...the ring a 6-5 favorite. The win ... ...longer, three as a welt... ...lleweight.

he was able to drop in some strong right hands to Griffith's head and jaw and hooked some solid lefts to the face and body. In the sixth, Nino got home a pair of solid rights to the face and seemed to be movin... did last April ...



Lightweight champion Carlos Ortiz (left) and Panama's Ismael Laguna huddle with a 3-month-old British bulldog named Mr. Chips before their title fight in August 1967. Ortiz retained the crown on points.

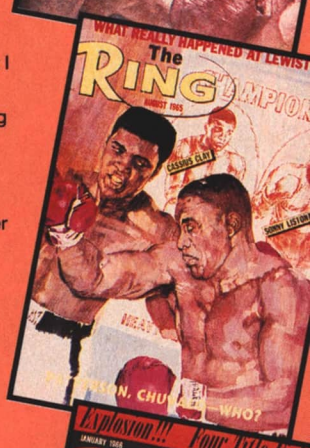
Carlos Ortiz

May 1965:

The Ring announces the opening of its own offices. From its inception, the magazine had been published at Madison Square Garden.

August 1965:

The ubiquitous Fleischer pens "What I Saw, What I Did, At Lewiston." During the first-round confusion of the infamous Ali-Liston rematch, Fleischer brought referee Jersey Joe Walcott together with timekeeper Frank McDonough, who determined that Liston had been counted out.



January 1966:

The first byline for our invaluable Far East correspondent Joe Koizumi, who, in his 25 years with the magazine, has reported on more fights than anyone else.

February 1966:

Pedro Galiana begins a new feature, a monthly column written in Spanish.

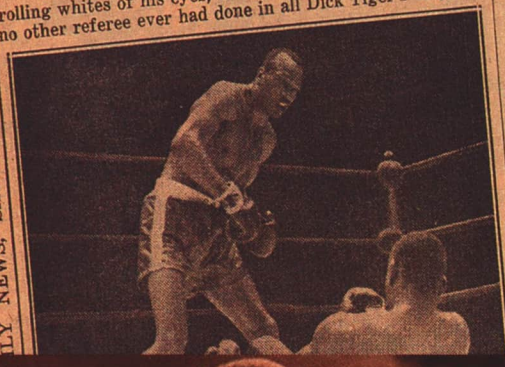
Foster Lifts Tiger's Title With Clean KO in 4th

28 • DAILY NEWS, SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1968

By Gene Ward

It was almost as sudden as a rifle shot, the short left hook that Bob Foster smashed to the chin of Dick Tiger at the Garden last night. Dick Tiger had seen men drop like this in his war-ravaged homeland of Nigeria and now it was happening to him, and he couldn't understand it.

He lay on his back, the Kleig lights glaring into the rolling whites of his eyes, while Mark Conn did something no other referee ever had done in all Dick Tiger's 18 years



Here he was exploding a jab, which Jack Dempsey had called "the best since Joe Louis!"

Tiger staged tiny rushes which ended in punches whistling harmlessly over Foster's shoulders or expanding wastefully in the cushions of his gloves.

Tiger was telegraphing his punches now, and Foster was eluding them and keeping up the steady drumbeat of his jab.

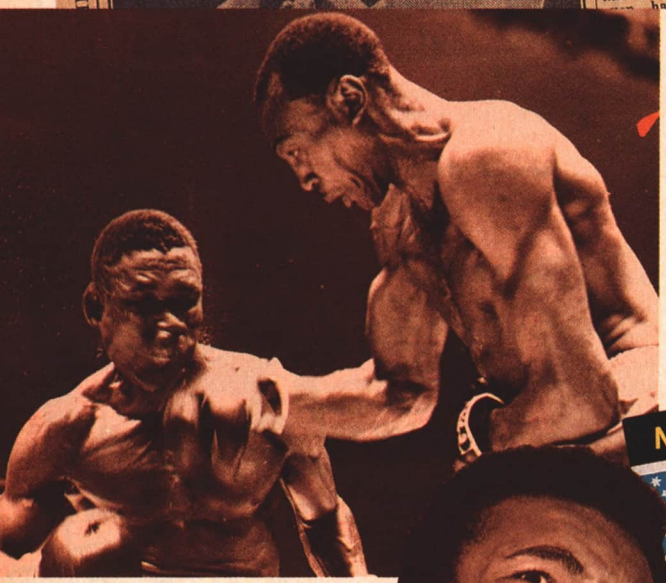
THIS WAS THE WAY Foster had blueprinted the fight. He

On the Wing

Detroit, May 24 (AP)—The Red Wings have made a multi-player deal with another NHL club, manager-coach Sid Abel said today. Abel declined to discuss the deal other than to say it would be announced Monday.

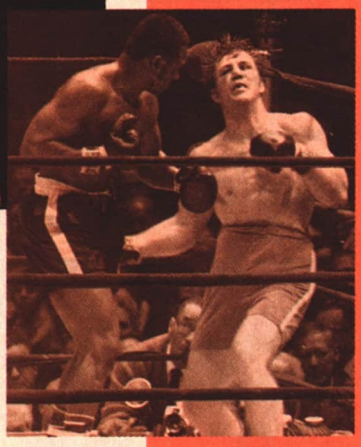
A Fight Columntoon

—By Bill Gallo

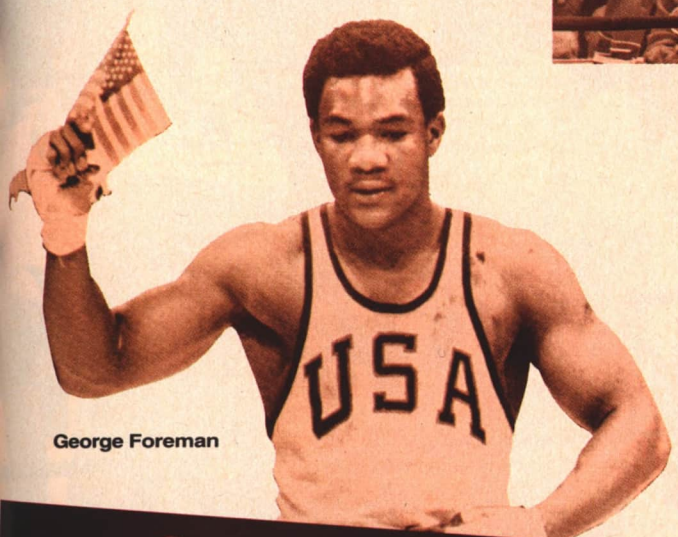


Bob Foster began a dominant title reign at light heavyweight in May 1968, when he pulverized defending champion Dick Tiger in four rounds (left).

Personality Of The Decade: Muhammad Ali—Like Dempsey in the '20s, Ali served as a symbol for his time. Initially dismissable as a cocky jock, circumstances established him as the world's most visible figure. In the '60s, he was a Muslim in the midst of the civil rights movement and a conscientious objector during the controversy of Vietnam. He inspired rage, hate, pride, love, and, ultimately, respect.



Nicolino Locche is overcome with emotion after winning the junior welterweight title by 10th-round TKO of Paul Fujii in December 1968 (above). In June 1969, Joe Frazier retains the heavyweight crown by kayoing Jerry Quarry after seven rounds (right).

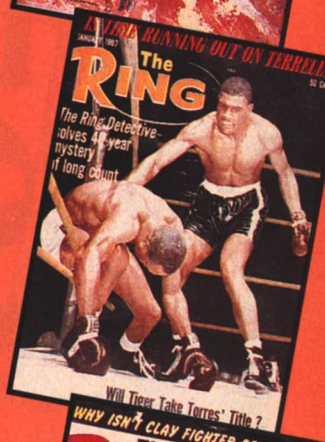


George Foreman

In August 1969, charismatic Ruben Olivares wins the bantamweight crown by crushing Australia's Lionel Rose in five rounds.

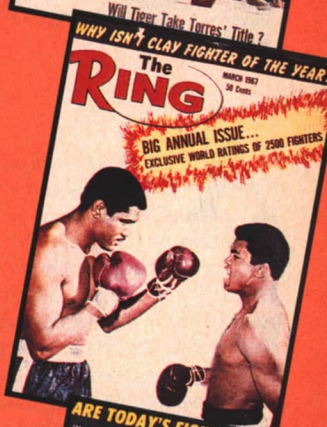
December 1966:

LeRoy Neiman's first cover. The subject? You guessed it—Muhammad Ali. Two issues later, Neiman covers the Ali-Cleveland Williams title fight.



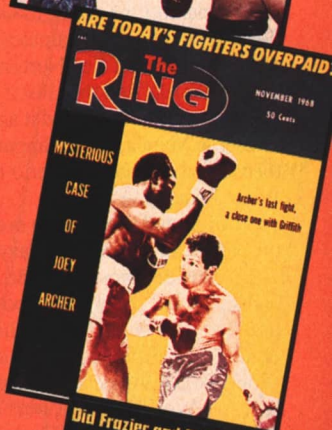
March 1967:

Dan Daniel explains why there is no Fighter of the Year for 1966. Muhammad Ali is the obvious choice, Daniel writes, but he was not given the award because of his association with the Black Muslims, and his refusal to serve in the armed forces.



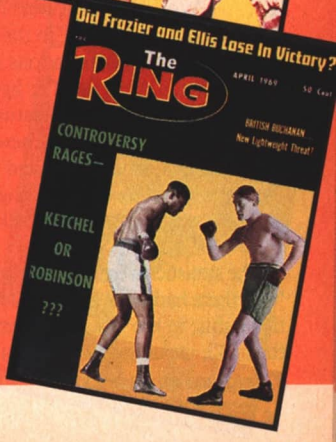
November 1968:

Daniel pens "Are Today's Fighters Overpaid?" Some things never change.



April 1969:

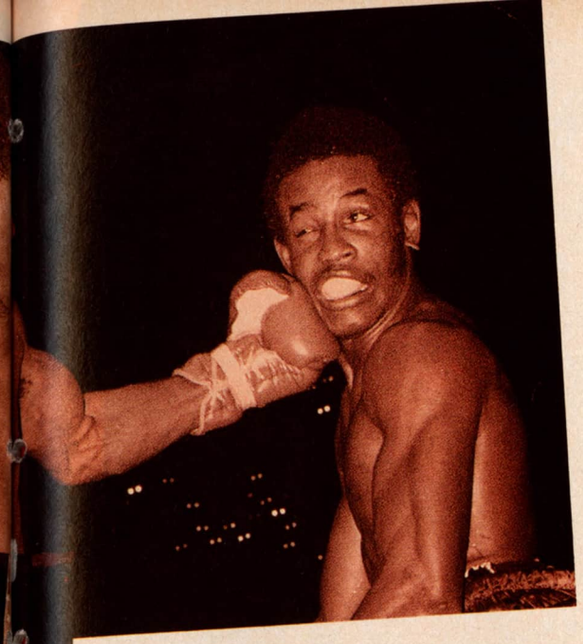
The last issue with coverage of pro wrestling, a staple of the magazine since the first issue.



1970s

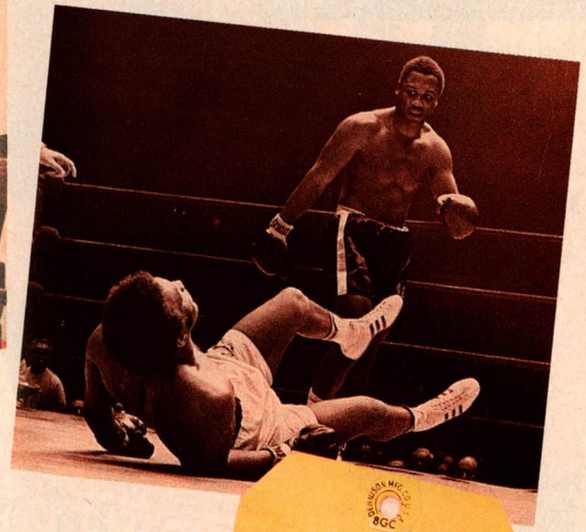
THE '70s ALL-STAR TEAM

Heavyweight: Muhammad Ali
Light Heavyweight: Bob Foster
Middleweight: Carlos Monzon
Junior Middleweight: Koichi Wajima
Welterweight: Jose Napoles
Junior Welterweight: Antonio Cervantes
Lightweight: Roberto Duran
Junior Lightweight: Alexis Arguello
Featherweight: Danny Lopez
Junior Featherweight: Wilfredo Gomez
Bantamweight: Carlos Zarate
Flyweight: Miguel Canto
Junior Flyweight: Yoko Gushiken



Middleweight champion Carlos Monzon and former king Emile Griffith await the start of their September 1971 title fight in Buenos Aires, Argentina (below). Monzon won by 14th-round TKO.

One of the decade's two best left hooks belonged to welterweight champion Jose Napoles, who, in December 1971, retained the crown by outpointing Hedgemon Lewis (above). The other belonged to heavyweight champion Joe Frazier, a fifth-round kayo winner over Jimmy Ellis in February 1970 (below).



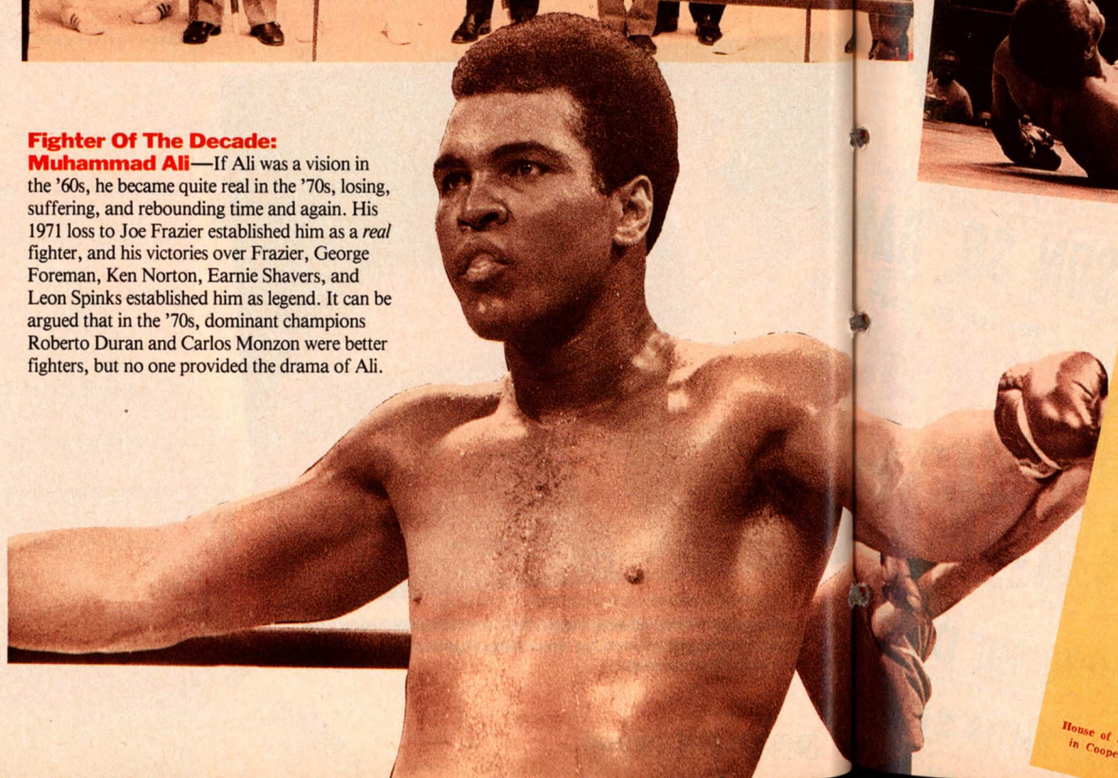
As soon as Madison Square Garden ring announcer Johnny Addie raised the hand of Joe Frazier on the night of March 8, 1971, boxing began to slip away from the United States. Frazier's unanimous 15-round decision over Muhammad Ali, the first of three chapters in boxing's greatest rivalry, remains the Fight of the Century. But Frazier lost the crown to George Foreman in Kingston, Jamaica; Foreman defended it against Ken Norton in Caracas, Venezuela, and then lost it to Ali in Kinshasa, Zaire. Ali risked it against Frazier in Manila, the Philippines, and then added defenses in Puerto Rico and West Germany.

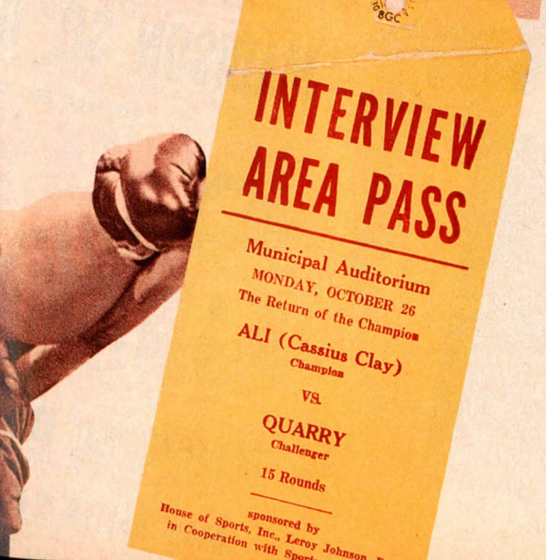
Stronger and deeper than ever before, the American-dominated heavyweight division provided most of the decade's highlights. But the power in boxing had begun to shift in 1962, when the National Boxing Association expanded into the World Boxing Association, and, one year later, the World Boxing Council was formed as an alternative. In the '70s, both sanctioning organizations were based in Latin America. The lighter weights were prominently featured—the decade saw the birth of two new divisions, junior featherweight and junior flyweight—and by 1980, boxing's original eight weight classes had ballooned to 14.

The statistics were staggering: In the '60s, there had been a record 248 world title fights; in the '70s, there were no less than 530, including 59 in the junior light-

(Continued on page 88)

Fighter Of The Decade: Muhammad Ali—If Ali was a vision in the '60s, he became quite real in the '70s, losing, suffering, and rebounding time and again. His 1971 loss to Joe Frazier established him as a *real* fighter, and his victories over Frazier, George Foreman, Ken Norton, Earnie Shavers, and Leon Spinks established him as legend. It can be argued that in the '70s, dominant champions Roberto Duran and Carlos Monzon were better fighters, but no one provided the drama of Ali.



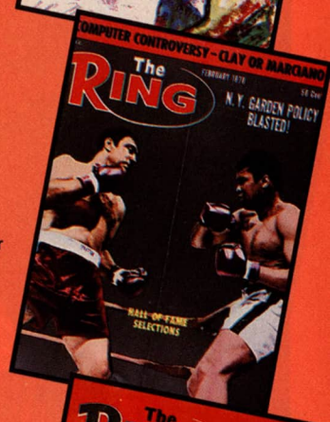


THE COVERS OF *THE RING*

Muhammad Ali—49
Joe Frazier—22
George Foreman—21
Ken Norton—12
Carlon Monzon—6
Jerry Quarry—5
Leon Spinks—4
Roberto Duran—4
Larry Holmes—4
Jimmy Young—4

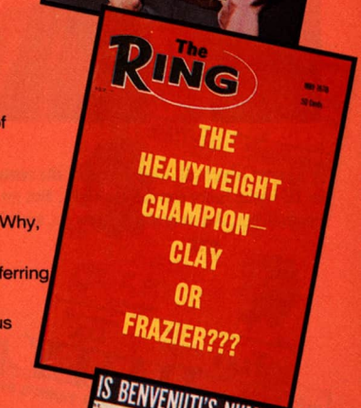
February 1970:

John Ort pens "TV Star Bill Cosby Pilots [Hedgemon] Lewis As Welter Threat." Lewis would never win the world title, but somehow his manager would survive.



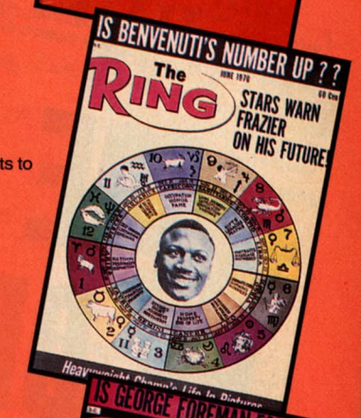
May 1970:

The Ring withdraws recognition of "Cassius Clay" as heavyweight champion. A question to ponder: Why, in 1970, was the magazine still referring to the former champion as Cassius Clay, and not Muhammad Ali?



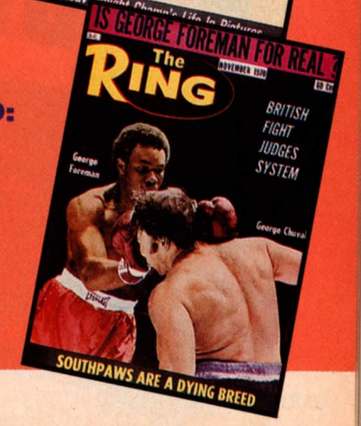
June 1970:

The cover price rises from 50 cents to 60 cents.



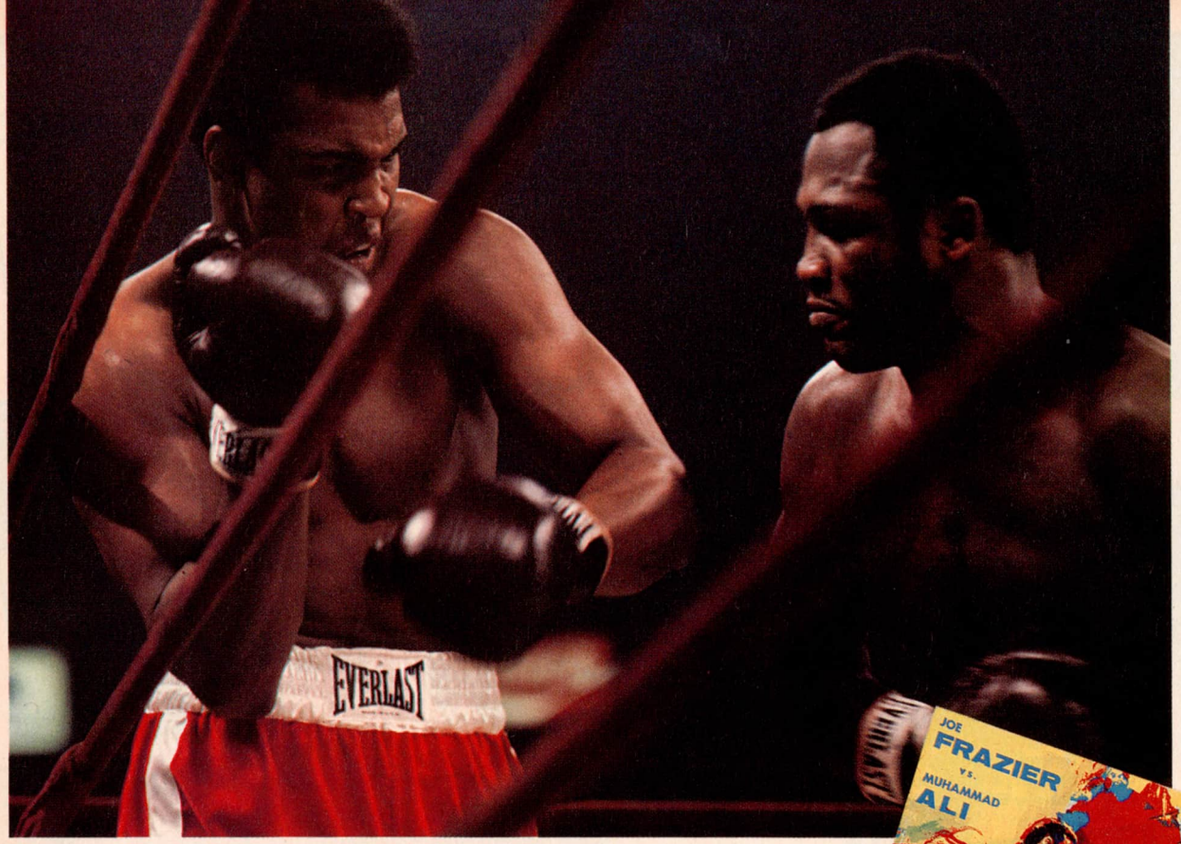
November 1970:

George Foreman's first cover.

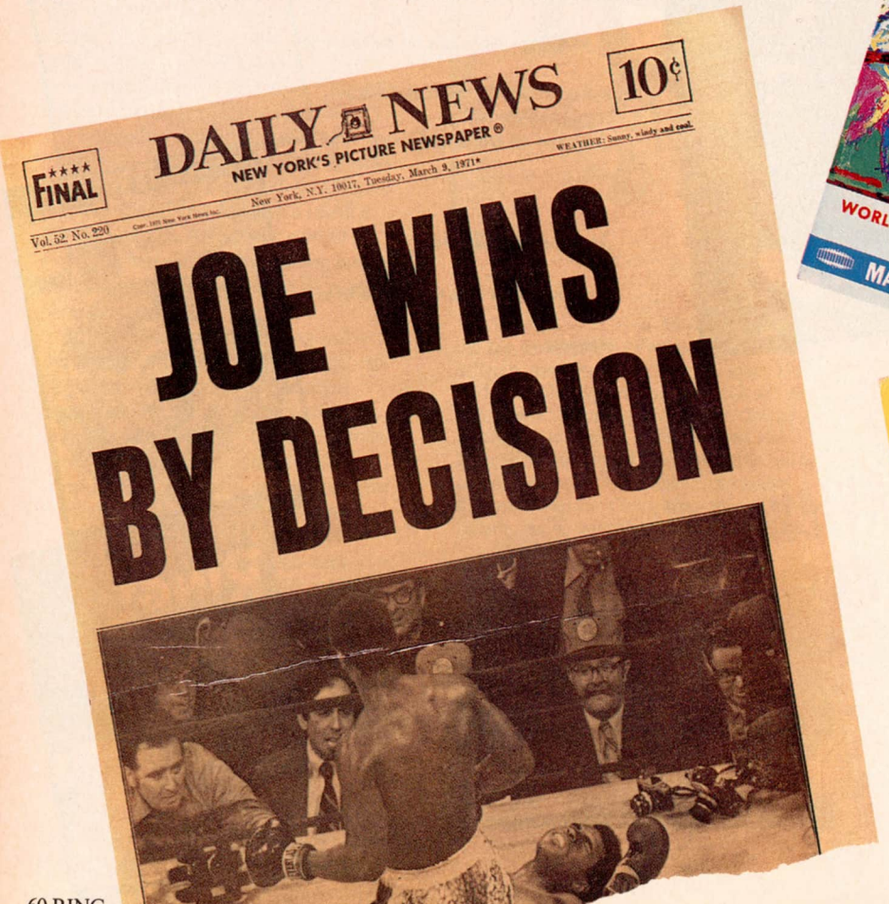


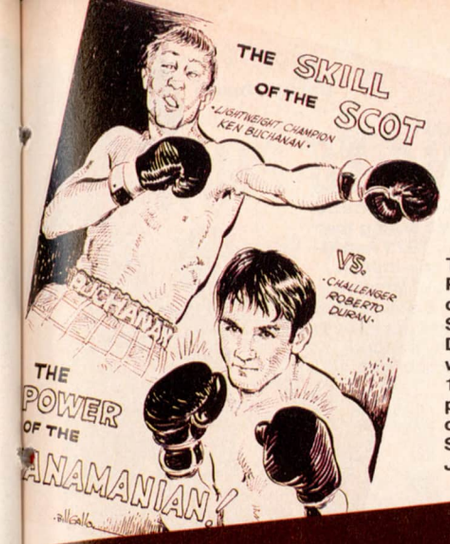
June 1972:

The 50th anniversary issue.

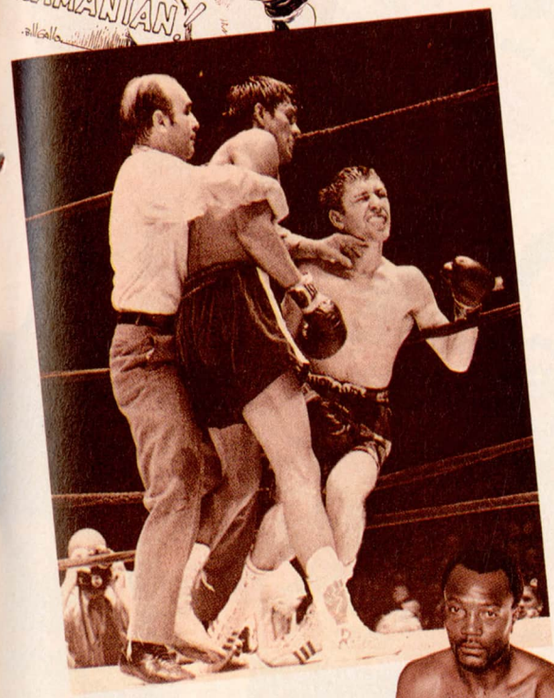


Fight Of The Decade: Joe Frazier W 15 Muhammad Ali—The Fight of the Century against which all other fights of the century must be judged. For competitiveness and drama, Ali-Frazier III was a more compelling fight. But on the night of March 8, 1971, the world stopped. Frazier was magnificent, Ali only slightly less so, and the event managed to live up to the unprecedented hype.





The power of the Panamanian overcame the skill of the Scot when Roberto Duran won the lightweight crown with a 14th-round stoppage of Ken Buchanan at Madison Square Garden in June 1972 (below).



Bob Foster

September 1972:

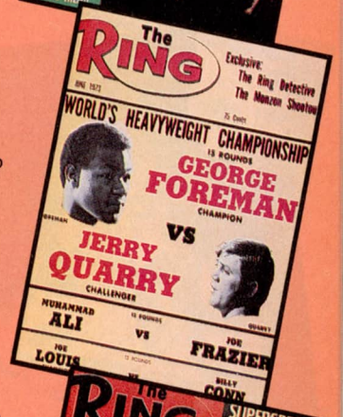
Nat Fleischer's last editorial as editor and publisher. Fleischer dies on June 25, 1972, at age 85. His son-in-law, Nat Loubet, assumes command.

October 1972:

Roberto Duran's first cover.

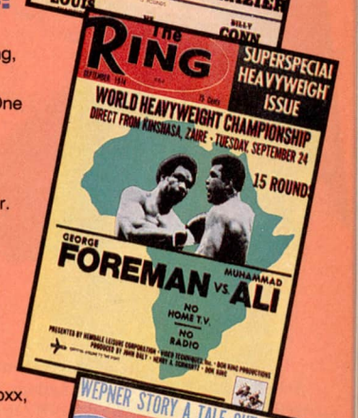
June 1973:

The cover price rises from 60 cents to 75 cents.



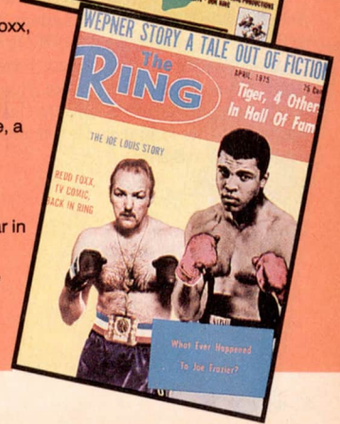
September 1974:

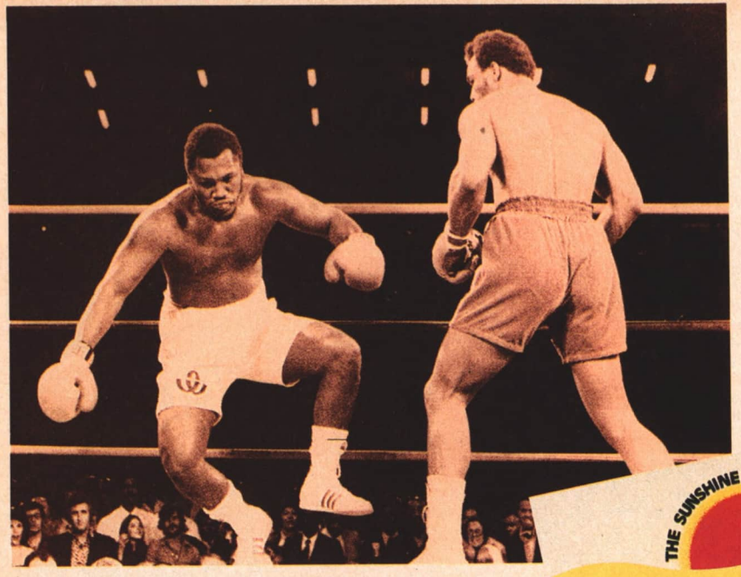
The first photo of promoter Don King, who flashes only a modified Afro. One issue later, a photo of a streaking middleweight named Marvin Hagler. With a full head of hair.



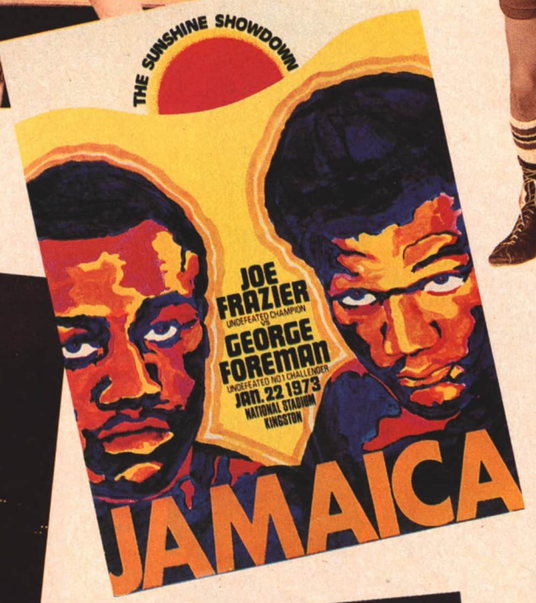
April 1975:

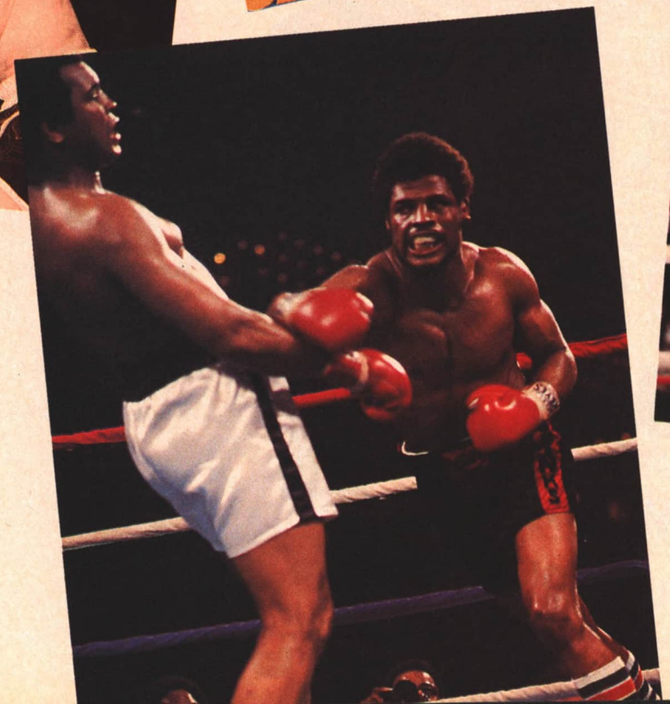
John Bellino profiles comic Redd Foxx, who fought professionally as Smily Sanford, and manages Fred Houpe, a heavyweight who fights as Young Sanford. Foxx, of course, would star in the TV series *Sanford And Son*. He sure loved that name.





The birth of a legend: In November 1974, Alexis Arguello wins the featherweight title by kayoing Ruben Olivares in the 13th round (below).





Upset Of The Decade: Leon Spinks W 15 Muhammad Ali—A victory over Alfio Righetti, a draw vs. Scott Ledoux, and a total of seven pro bouts prepared 1976 Olympic gold medalist Spinks for his opportunity. Sensing a soft touch, Ali trained with indifference. His experience wasn't enough to overcome the challenger's energy, and after 15 rounds, the split decision deservedly went to Spinks.

Bobby Chacon

George Foreman almost sent Joe Frazier into orbit during their January 1973 heavyweight title fight in Kingston, Jamaica (left). In a shocking upset, Foreman took the crown by second-round knockout.

NEW JERSEY ★★★★

DAILY NEWS
NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER
New York, N.Y. 10017, Wednesday, October 30, 1974

ALI WINS BY KO IN 8

Floors Foreman to Regain Crown

By PHIL PEPE

Boxing lives!

Muhammad Ali is back!

Forget the flowers, cancel the eulogy, scrub the dirge. Get ready for more talk, more boasting, more poetry. Muhammad Ali is heavyweight champion of the world again.

In the most stirring, most spectacular fight of his career, the 32-year-old former, and once again, heavyweight champion of the world became only the second man in boxing history to regain the heavyweight title last night when he knocked George Foreman flat in 2:58 of the eighth round in their "rumble in the jungle" in Kinshasa, Zaire.

Only Floyd Patterson before him had lost his title and won it back. Now Muhammad Ali has done it, too, upsetting the oddmakers, who had made him a 3-1 underdog, shocking the experts who said at 32, he was too old, and removing the dusk of invincibility that had been draped around the broad, powerful shoulders of the 25-year-old Foreman.

The cloak had been put there because Foreman had won all 40 of his professional fights, 37 of them by knockout, giving him the best knockout record in the history of the heavyweight division, better than John L. Sullivan, better than Jack Dempsey, better than Joe Louis, better than Rocky Marciano, better than everybody.

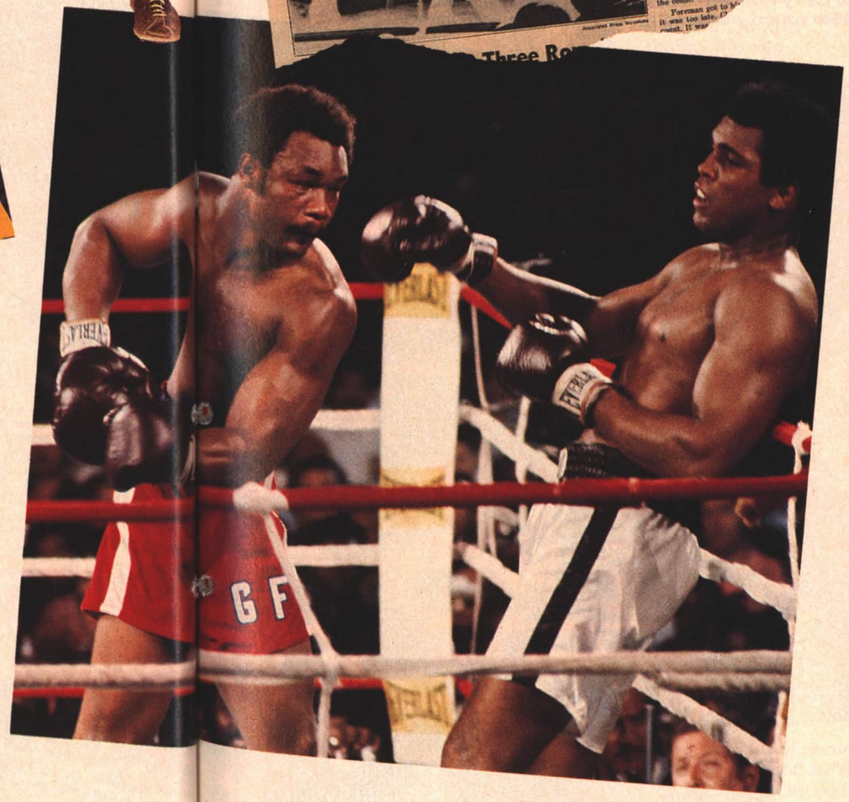
This was to be the heavyweight fight to end all heavyweight fights, a $40-million spectacular in Africa at four in the morning.

And it was to be the heavyweight fight to end the glamorous, controversial career of Muhammad Ali, who won the title from Sonny Liston on Miami Beach, 12,000 miles and 10 years away from where he had his greatest moment last night.

But even here in Madison Square Garden on closed-circuit TV, and with the benefit of a replay of the climactic round, the end came when Ali unleashed a five-punch sequence, ending with a smashing right to the jaw.

Foreman seemed to stumble over his own feet and went down on his side. He r... on his back as referee Zach... the count.

Foreman got to h... it was too late, ... count. It was ...



In October 1974, Muhammad Ali, a 7-1 underdog, used rope-a-dope tactics against powerpunching heavyweight champion George Foreman and regained the crown with a stunning eighth-round kayo in Kinshasa, Zaire.

June 1975:

The first of a record *10* consecutive covers featuring Muhammad Ali.

October 1975:

A profile of light heavyweight Bobby Cassidy includes a photo of the contender with his sons Bobby, 11, and Chris, 8. Bobby Jr. is currently an associate editor of *The Ring*. He paid handsomely to keep the photo out of this issue.

February 1976:

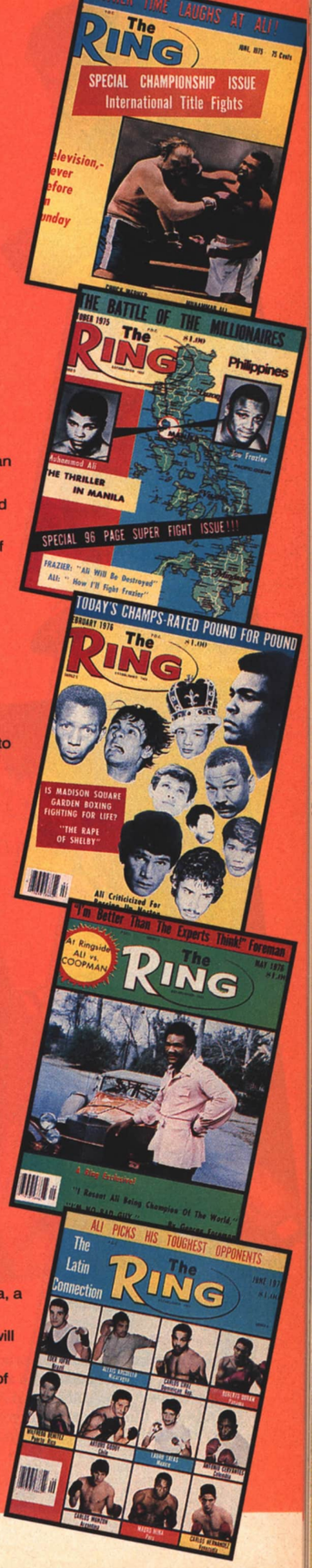
The cover price rises from 75 cents to $1.00.

May 1976:

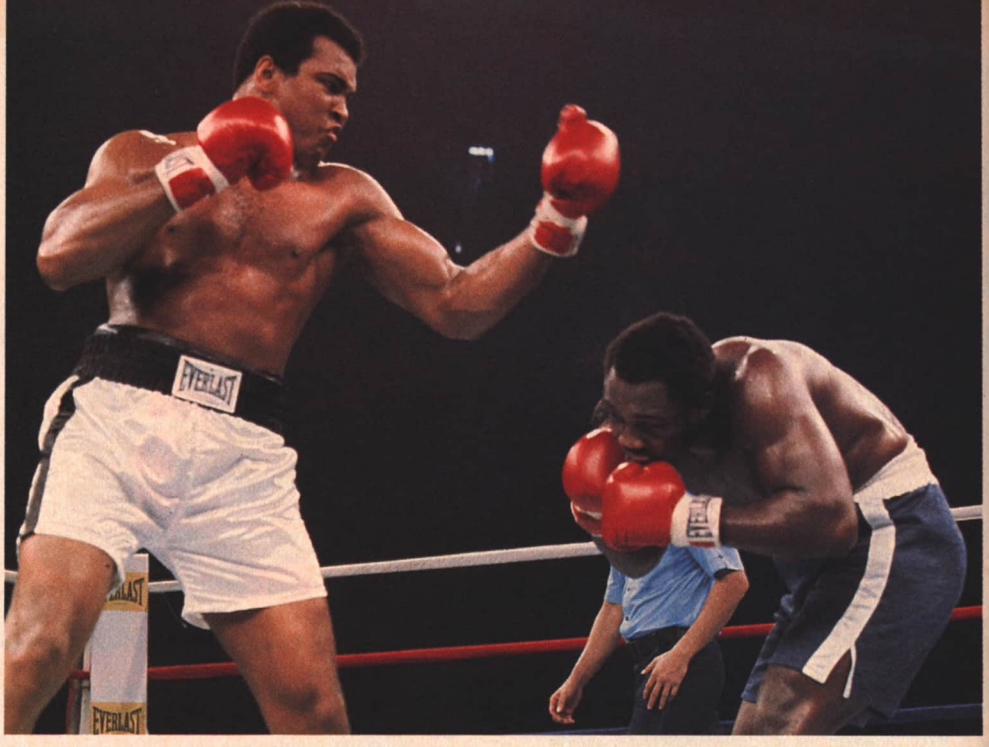
The headline of a decade: "Mike Rossman: Mazel Tough."

June 1976:

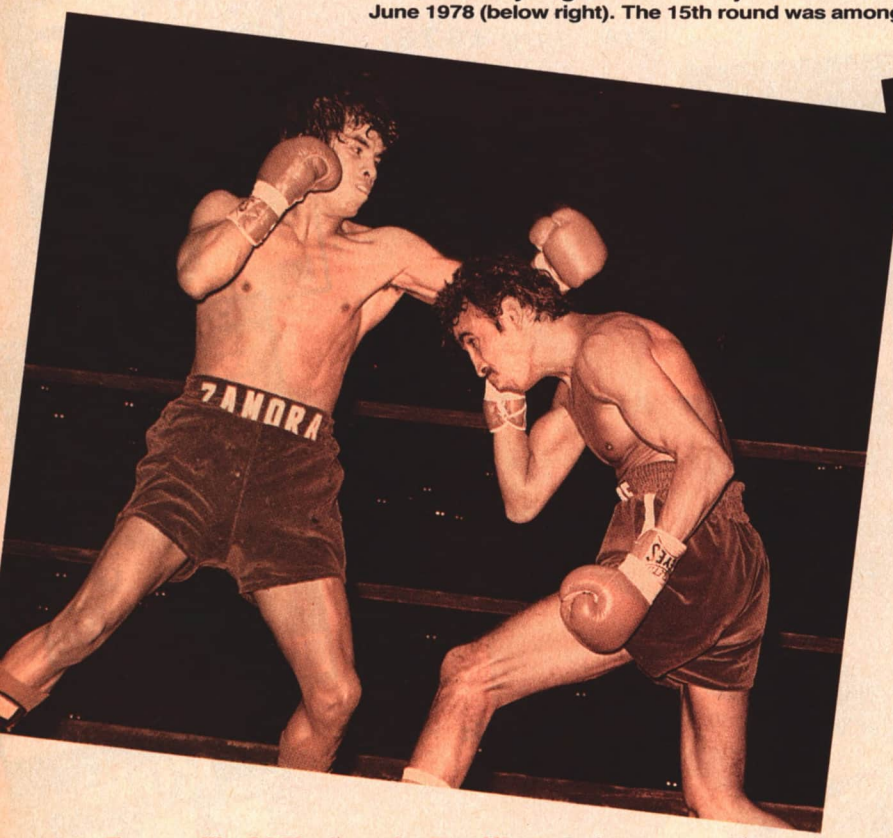
The Ring licenses its name to Widifa, a company based in Venezuela that will begin publishing a Spanish edition of the magazine.

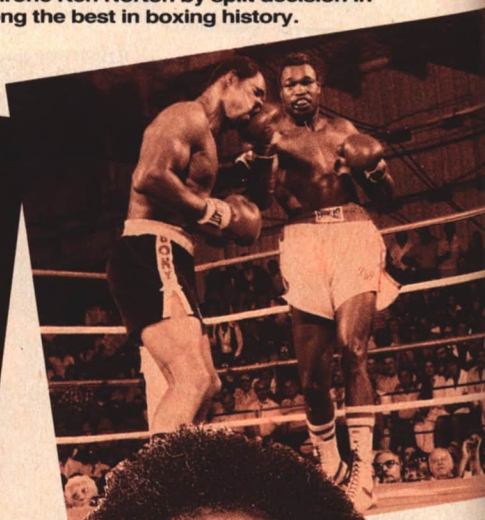


Miguel Canto



The rematch that had to happen: In January 1974, Muhammad Ali gained revenge, outpointing Joe Frazier over 12 rounds (above). The most explosive bantamweight matchup in history featured a pair of unbeaten Mexican champions, Alfonso Zamora and Carlos Zarate (below left). Zarate won by fourth-round kayo in April 1977. A fantastic battle for the WBC heavyweight title saw Larry Holmes dethrone Ken Norton by split decision in June 1978 (below right). The 15th round was among the best in boxing history.





Personality Of The Decade: Don King—For better or worse, King emerged as the dominant promoter of the decade and, along with archrival Bob Arum, began a lengthy run as the game's premier puppetmaster. Working with champions like Muhammad Ali, George Foreman, Larry Holmes, and Roberto Duran, King regularly promoted million-dollar extravaganzas, and even survived the disastrous scandal that ended 1977's U.S. Boxing Championships.

uran undisputed champ

day San Juan Star

PORTS

Sunday, January 22, 1978.

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (UPI) — Roberto Duran's "hands of stone" landed like an avalanche on Esteban DeJesus' jaw in the 12th round Saturday to give the Panamanian the undisputed lightweight championship.

Duran's record 12th straight defense as World Boxing Association champion ended with the World Boxing Council champion from Puerto Rico strung helplessly across the ropes.

A sledge-hammer right to the jaw by Duran had floored DeJesus midway through the 12th and after taking an eight-count, De Jesus was battered body and head by Duran until DeJesus' handlers stepped into the ring to have referee Buddy Basilico stop the fight with 28 seconds left in the round.

"I was going to give him an eight-count," said Basilico, "but the handlers, they did the right thing. He was on queer street. I would probably have stopped it anyway."

"That is why I am called 'Stone Hands,'" Duran said, "all around the world."

Now Duran will be called champion all around the world and he'll defend the undisputed title for the first time on April 21 in Madison Square Garden against the winner of the Feb. 3 Wilfredo Benitez-Bruce Curry fight.

DeJesus, despite the pride-shattering loss, said he's not ready to quit.

"I'm going to keep fighting as a lightweight," DeJesus. "I want another shot at Duran."

DeJesus never really showed the craftsmanship he displayed in beating Duran in the first of their three bouts.

Duran ended a somewhat disappointing fight with his lightning-quick explosiveness as he caught DeJesus with a right cross to the jaw midway through the 12th and sent him sprawling to the canvas.

DeJesus was on his feet at the count of three but was groggy. And when the fight continued Duran mauled him in the corner with lefts and rights to the body and head. DeJesus sagged into the ropes and the fight was stopped while he was still on his feet.

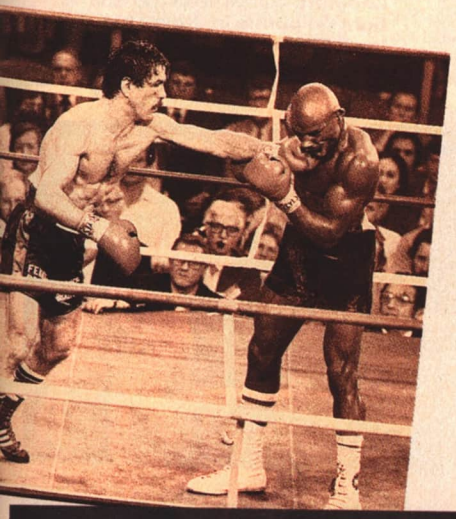
"I have it had him, it was just a matter of time," said Duran, who won his 31st straight fight and settled his revenge on DeJesus, the only man to beat him.

Duran was immediately surrounded in the ring by dozens of his followers from Panama and they cheered loudly as he strapped the world championship belt with the large gold buckle around his waist.

"I was born for this, I was

(See DURAN, Page 50)

Roberto "Rocky" Duran follows through with a right uppercut to the head of Esteban de Jesus during the fifth round of Saturday evening's world lightweight title unification bout in Las Vegas. Duran, the WBA champ, took



Vito Antuofermo retains the middleweight title by holding Marvin Hagler to a controversial 15-round draw in November 1979.

Two master boxers, challenger Sugar Ray Leonard and champion Wilfred Benitez, clashed for the WBC welterweight title in November '79. Leonard won by 15th-round TKO.

August 1977:

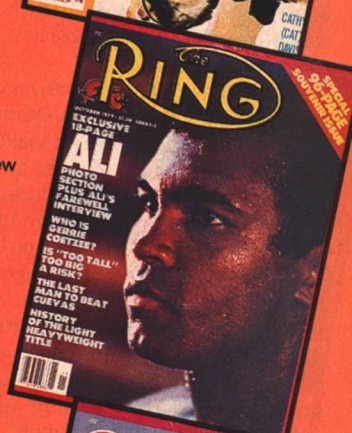
Nat Loubet explains *The Ring's* involvement in the ill-fated United States Boxing Championships, promoted by Don King and aired by ABC-TV. According to Loubet, certain managers falsified their fighters' records in an attempt to gain entry into the tournament. *(The Ring's* U.S. ratings were used in the selection process.)

August 1978:

A break from tradition: Female boxer Cathy "Cat" Davis is featured on the cover; the cover price rises from $1.00 to $1.25.

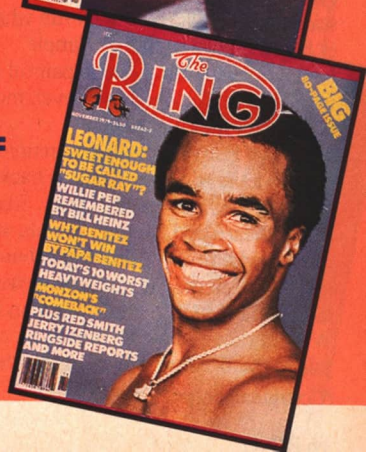
October 1979:

A new look: Pages are added, "New Faces" returns, and "Round One" debuts; the cover price rises from $1.25 to $1.50.



November 1979:

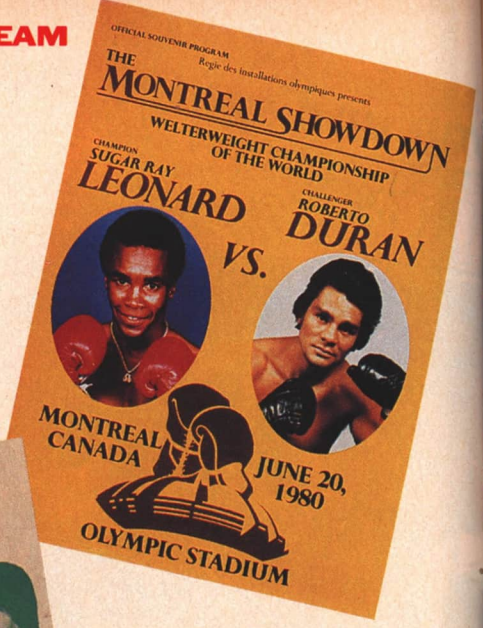
Sugar Ray Leonard's first cover.



1980s

THE '80s ALL-STAR TEAM

Heavyweight: Larry Holmes
Cruiserweight: Evander Holyfield
Light Heavyweight: Michael Spinks
Super Middleweight: Chong Pal Park
Middleweight: Marvin Hagler
Junior Middleweight: Mike McCallum
Welterweight: Sugar Ray Leonard
Junior Welterweight: Aaron Pryor
Lightweight: Edwin Rosario
Junior Lightweight: Julio Cesar Chavez
Featherweight: Eusebio Pedroza
Junior Featherweight: Wilfredo Gomez
Bantamweight: Jeff Chandler
Junior Bantamweight: Khaosai Galaxy
Flyweight: Santos Laciar
Junior Flyweight: Jung Koo Chang



The decade began with a pair of welterweight title bouts between Roberto Duran and Sugar Ray Leonard. Duran won the first fight on points in June 1980 (below). Five months later, Leonard took the rematch when Duran suddenly quit in round eight.

Whether it's labeled a masterpiece or an eyesore, boxing has never failed to elicit a reaction when it props its color-splashed canvas up there on an easel for all to see. After a couple hundred years of brush strokes, however, the sport must have been looking for a new challenge. So in the '80s, it experimented with another genre: surrealism. The problem was, boxing didn't just dabble in it, it *became* it.

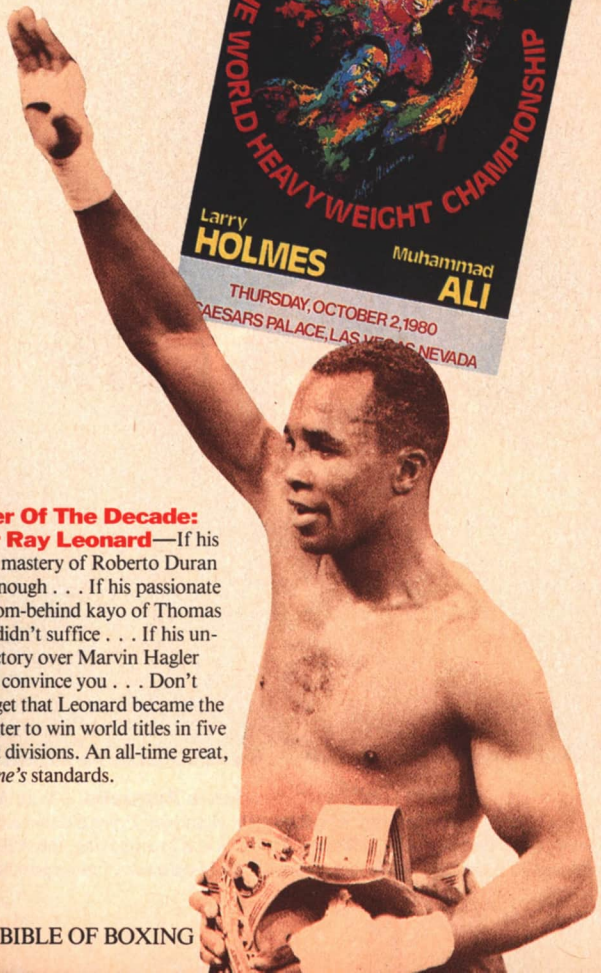
When Father Time hobbled out of his last New Year's Eve party on December 31, 1989, he had to have been shaking his head. What had occurred in the previous 10 years sure seemed like a hallucination.

Muhammad Ali, who had lost to Larry Holmes in 1980 and Trevor Berbick in '81, and was expected to go on to become boxing's elder statesman, was suffering from Parkinson's Syndrome. The public saw him robbed of his wide-eyed enthusiasm, the stream of consciousness that was so much fun whenever it overflowed its banks. Simple interviews with him became painful for us to watch. They had to be even more painful for him to give.

George Foreman, who had retired in *1976* to a life as a minister, was back climbing the heavyweight ranks. Sugar Ray Leonard and Roberto Duran, who'd dueled twice in 1980, decided to bounce a rubber match off the public *nine years later*. And the IBF, WBO, IBC, and WBF grabbed some life preservers and joined the WBA and WBC in the deep

(Continued on page 89)

In June 1980, WBC featherweight king Salvador Sanchez stopped Danny Lopez in 14 rounds (above). In October 1980, WBC heavyweight champion Larry Holmes halted Muhammad Ali after 11 one-sided rounds (left).



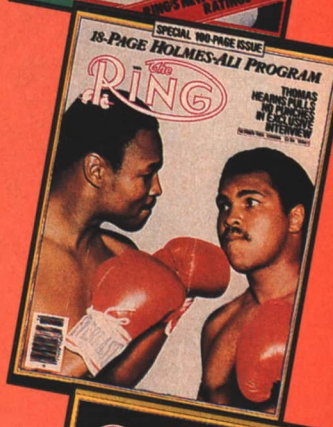
Fighter Of The Decade: Sugar Ray Leonard—If his rematch mastery of Roberto Duran wasn't enough . . . If his passionate come-from-behind kayo of Thomas Hearns didn't suffice . . . If his unlikely victory over Marvin Hagler failed to convince you . . . Don't ever forget that Leonard became the first fighter to win world titles in five different divisions. An all-time great, by *anyone's* standards.

THE COVERS OF *THE RING*

Sugar Ray Leonard—17
Mike Tyson—12
Marvin Hagler—12
Larry Holmes—9
Thomas Hearns—8
Michael Spinks—7
Gerry Cooney—5
Roberto Duran—4
Muhammad Ali—4

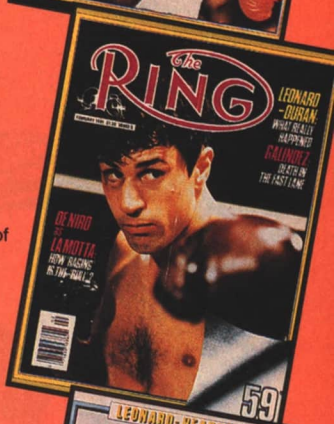
May 1980:

Budweiser begins sponsorship of the monthly ratings, which are now compiled by polling experts from five continents.



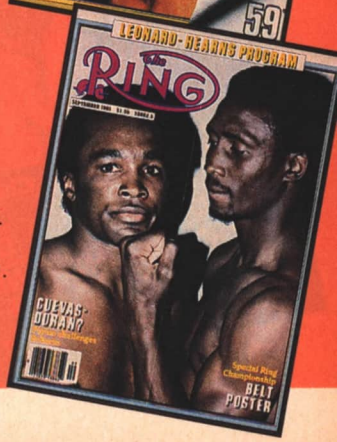
February 1981:

Art imitates life, which imitates art: Robert DeNiro, starring as Jake LaMotta in *Raging Bull*, is featured on the cover. The film is later voted best of the '80s.

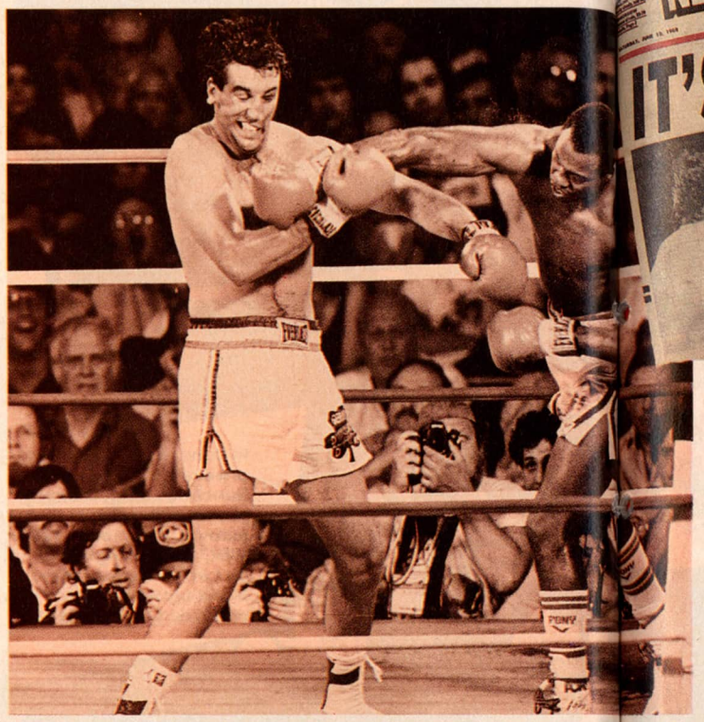


September 1981:

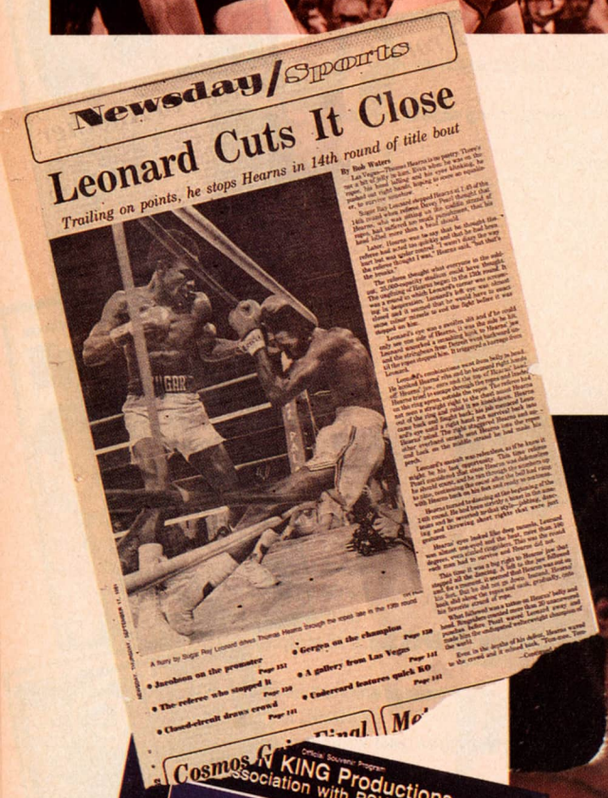
In the "Last Round," Nat Loubet remembers longtime contributor Dan Daniel, among the most respected baseball and boxing writers of all-time. On July 2, 1981, Daniel died at age 91.

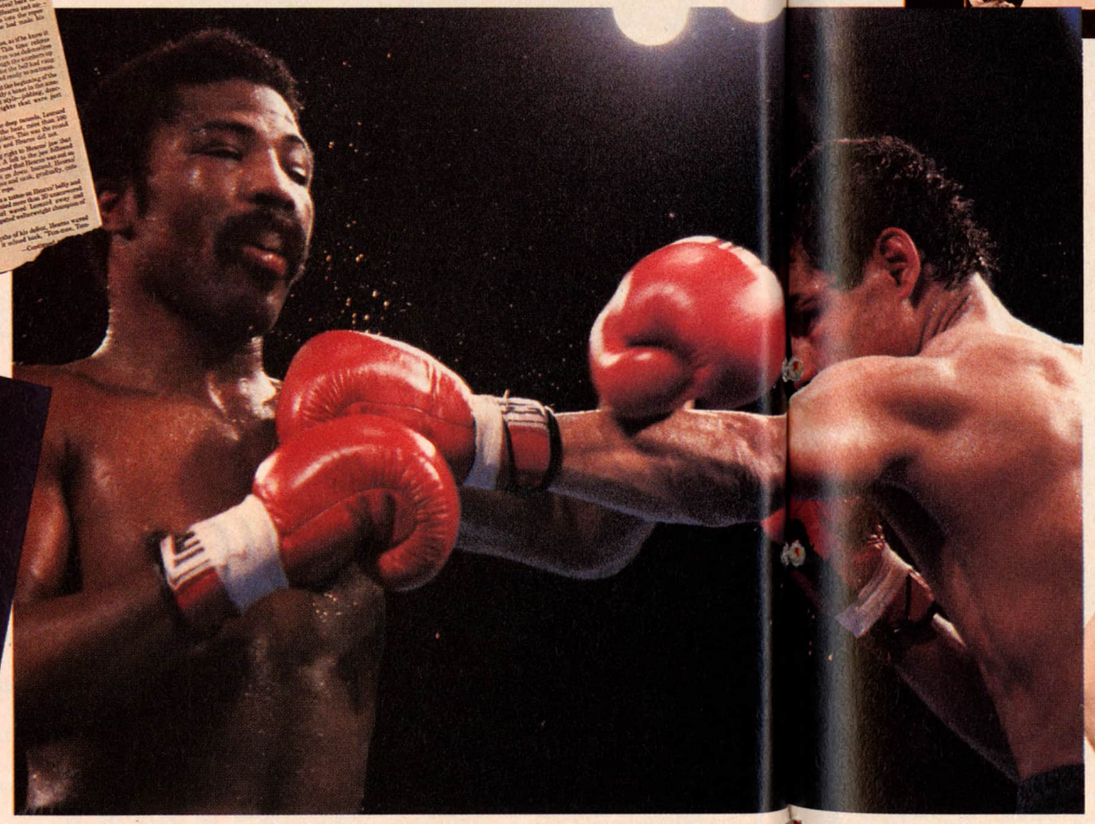


Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini fulfilled his dream by winning the WBA lightweight title with a first-round kayo of Art Frias in May 1982 (left). WBC heavyweight champion Larry Holmes proved too ringwise for unbeaten Gerry Cooney and scored a 13th-round stoppage in June 1982 (below).

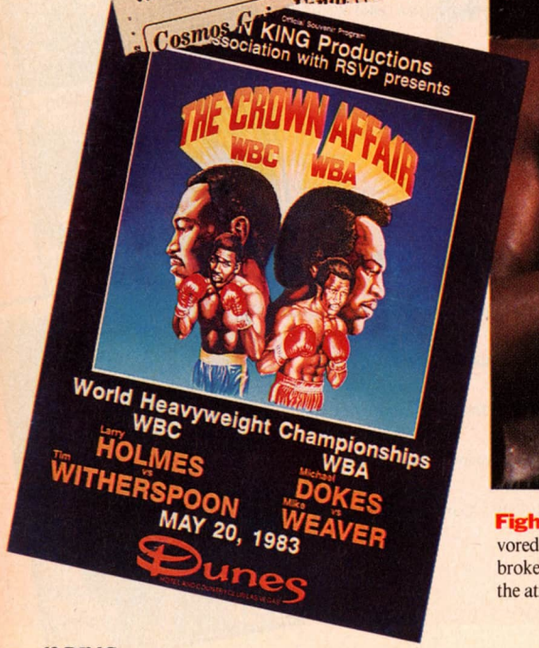


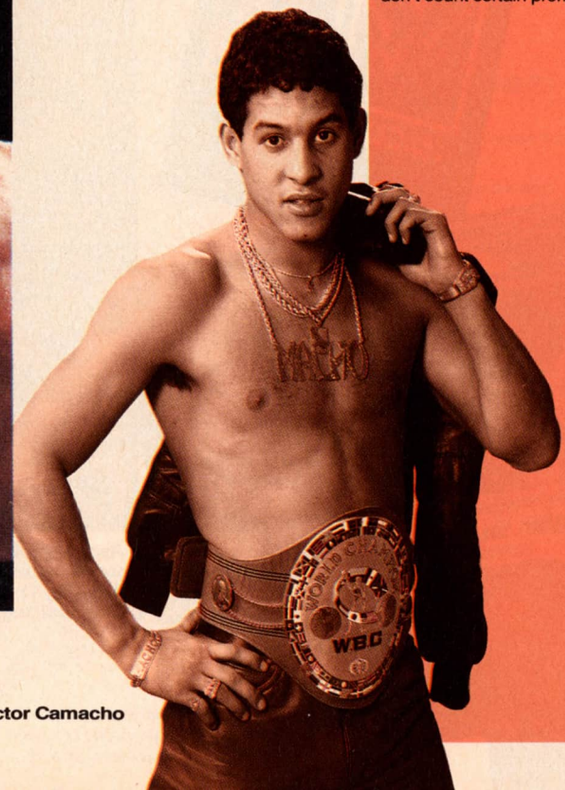
During a dominant reign, WBA bantamweight king Jeff Chandler, above vs. Gaby Canizales in March 1983, brought the spotlight to the lighter weights.





Fight Of The Decade: Aaron Pryor KO 14 Alexis Arguello—With Arguello favored to capture his fourth title, defending junior welterweight champion Pryor did the unthinkable: He broke the will of one of the greatest fighters in history. The pace was breathtaking, the skills top-shelf, the atmosphere electric, and the climax emotional. A great fight in a decade of unforgettable fights.





Hector Camacho

October 1981:

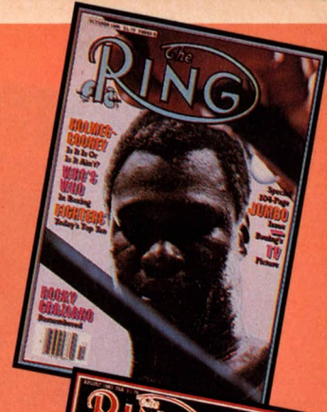
The cover price rises from $1.50 to $1.75.

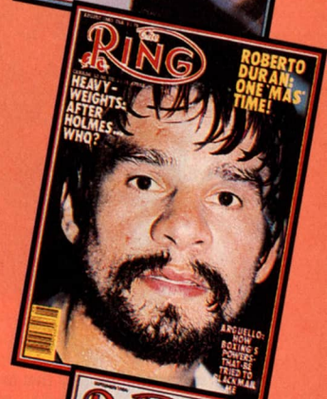
August 1983:

The cover price rises from $1.75 to $2.00.

September 1984:

Lightweight champion Livingstone Bramble appears on the cover with his pet snake wrapped around his neck. It is the first appearance of a snake on the cover of *The Ring*, assuming you don't count certain promoters.

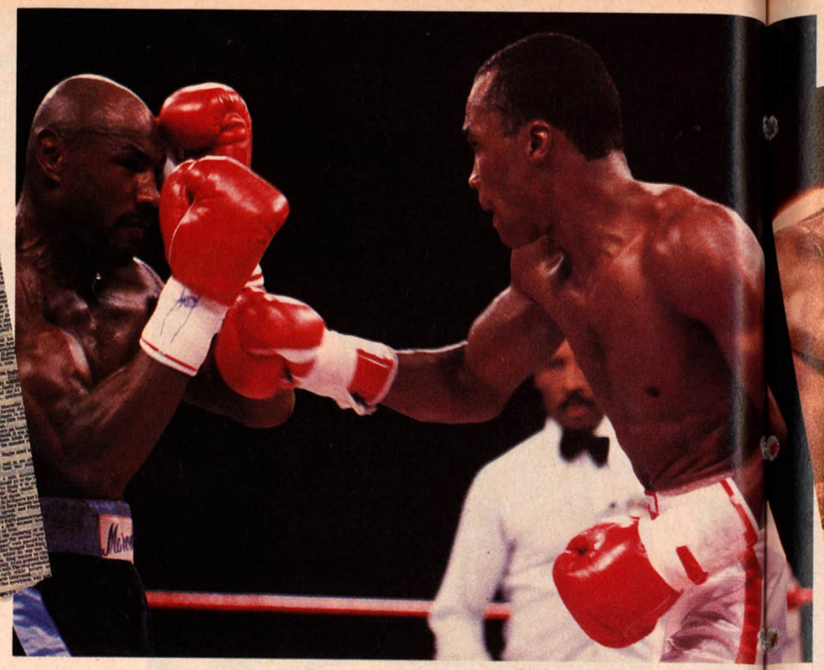


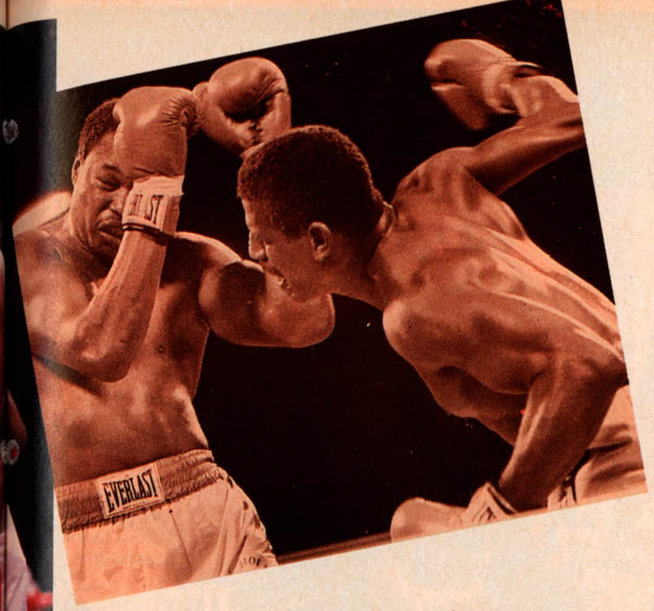


SPORTS

The sweetest comeback of all

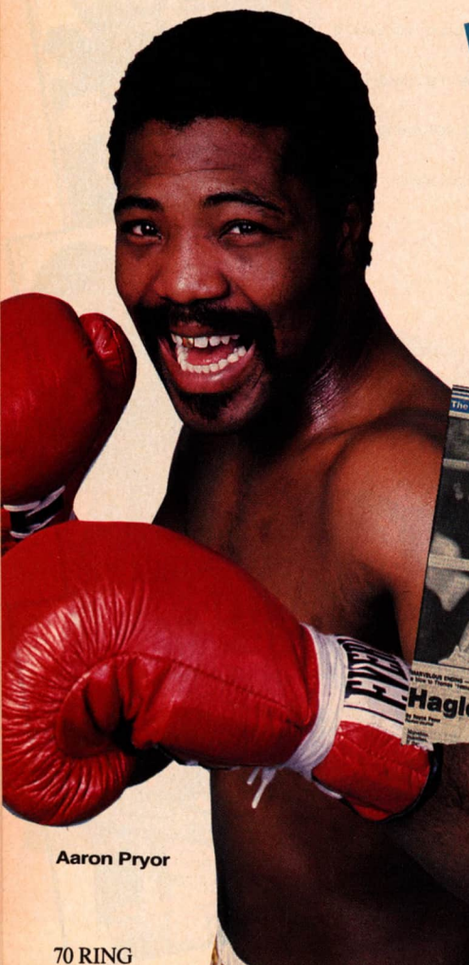
Leonard guile, gu win split decision



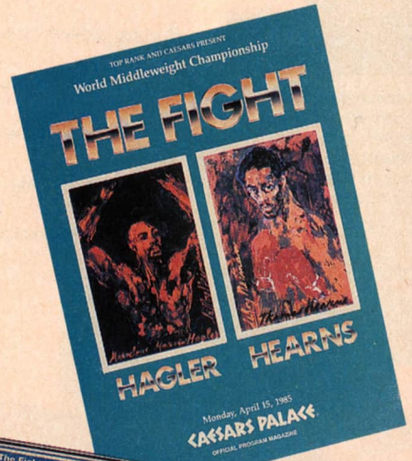


Michael Spinks became the first reigning light heavyweight champion to win the heavyweight crown when he outpointed the heavily favored Larry Holmes in September 1985.

Upset Of The Decade: Ray Leonard W 12 Marvin Hagler—Those who continue to degrade Sugar Ray insist that in their respective primes, Hagler would have overwhelmed Leonard. Probably so. But if, on April 6, 1987, Hagler was a tired, fading champion, what was Leonard? The challenger, inactive for three years and jumping up in weight, stole the fight with nerve and verve. In retrospect, it was his last truly special moment.



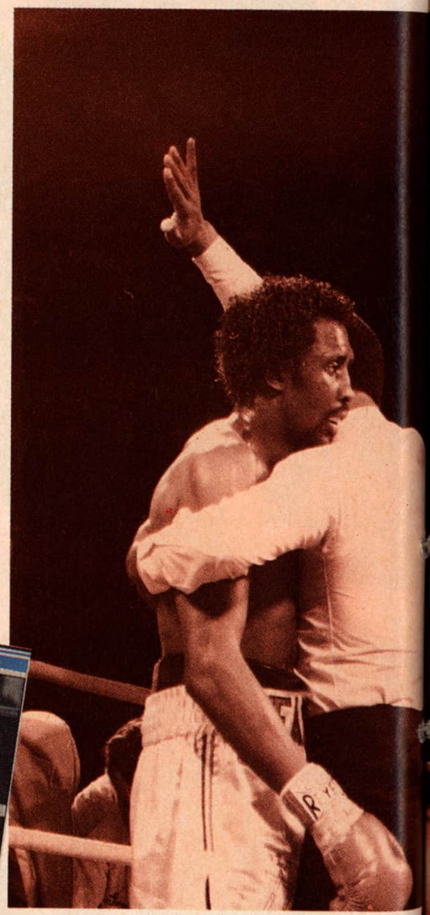
Aaron Pryor

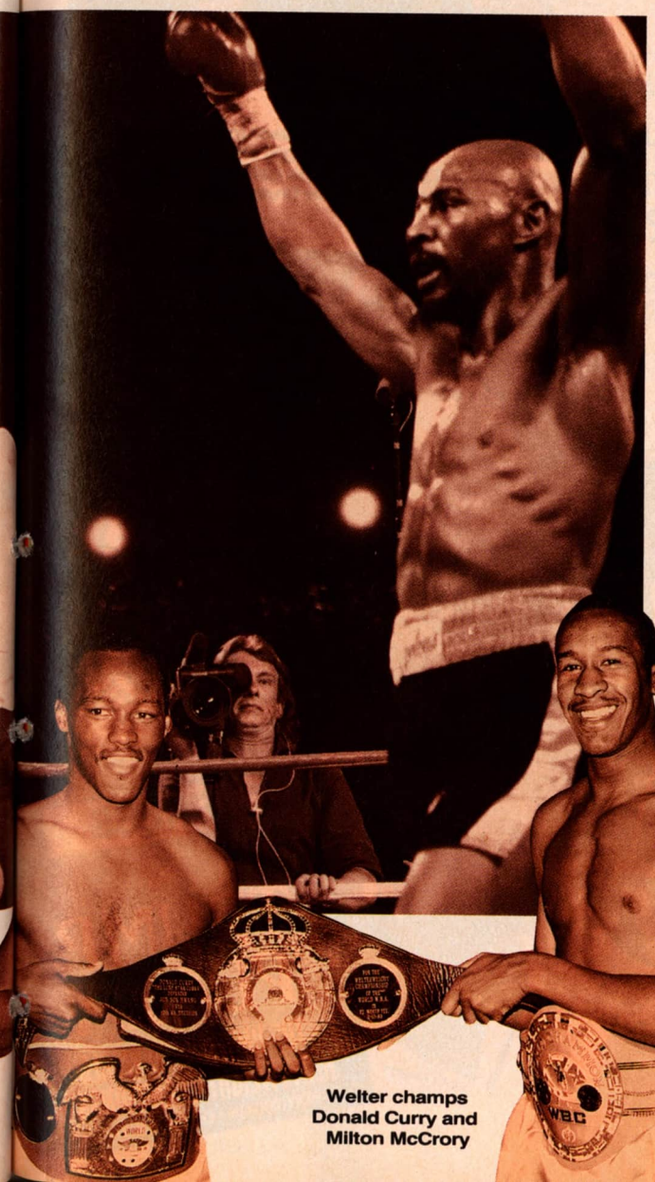


The Fight: Hagler vs. Hearns

Hagler 'marvelous' in title defense

In April 1985, Marvelous Marvin Hagler remained world middleweight champion by kayoing Thomas "Hit Man" Hearns in three thrilling rounds.





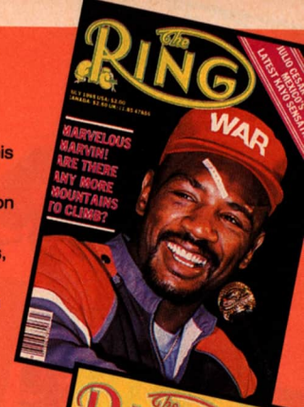
Welter champs Donald Curry and Milton McCrory

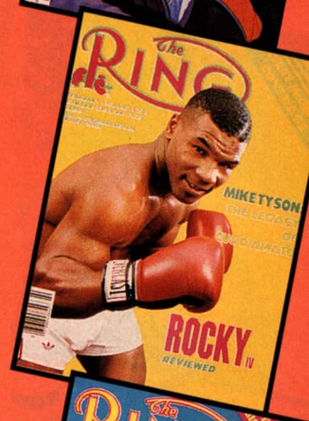
July 1985:

In "Fighters Rate Their Divisions," rising heavyweight Mike Tyson lists his heavyweight top 10. It includes Pinklon Thomas, Larry Holmes, Carl Williams, and Tony Tubbs, all of whom will turn out to be Tyson kayo victims.

February 1986:

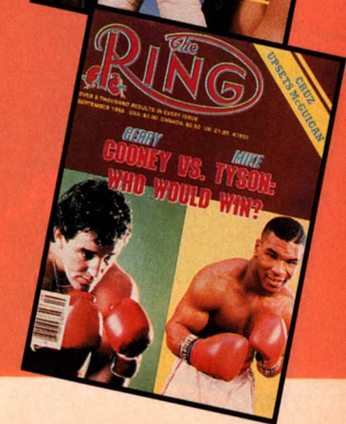
Mike Tyson's first cover.





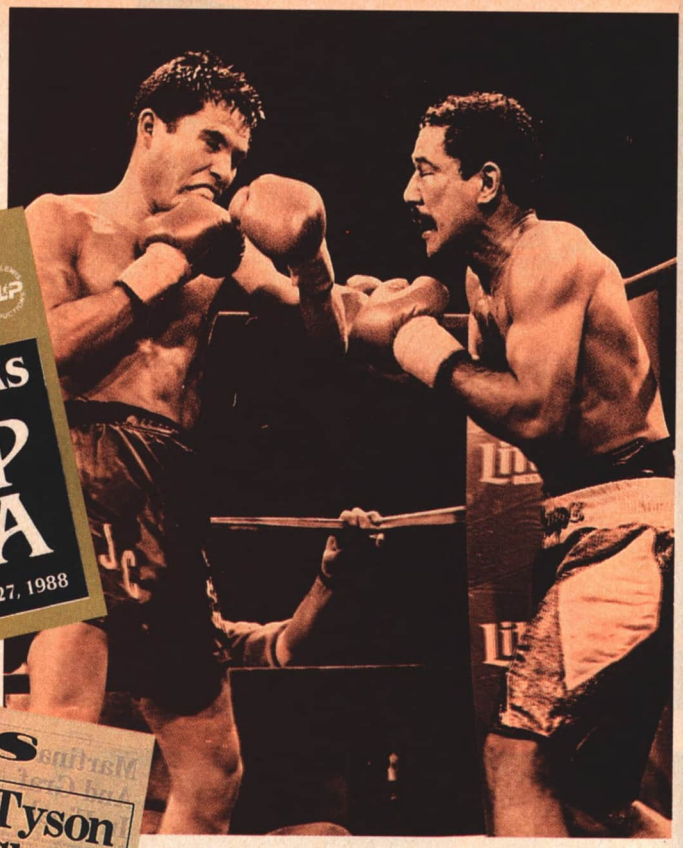
July 1987:

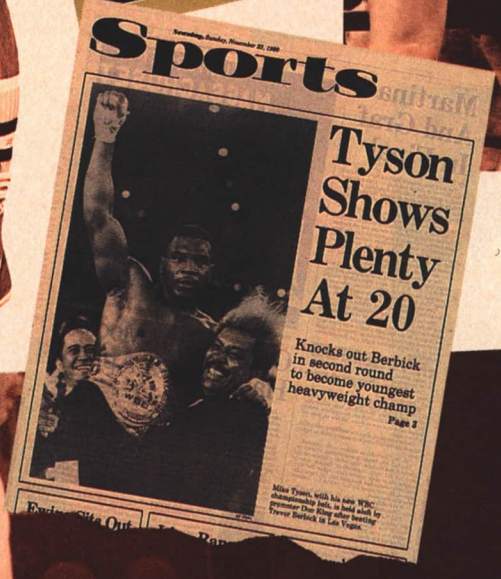
Editor Nigel Collins explains a controversial decision: *The Ring* has returned to rating only the eight original divisions.



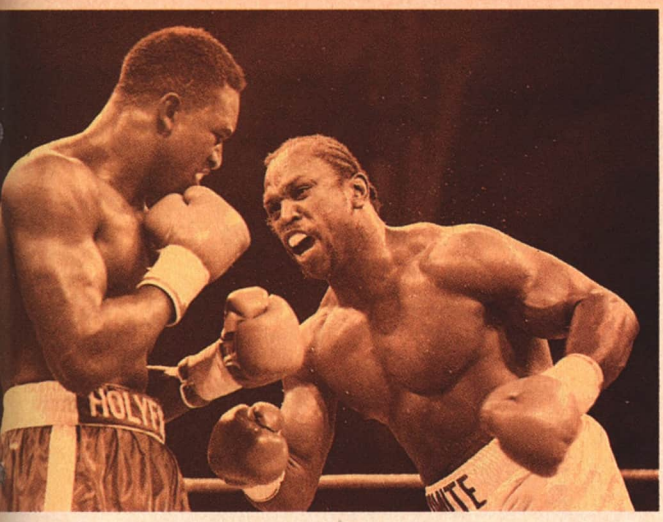
Jeff Fenech

Julio Cesar Chavez wins the WBA lightweight title by 11th-round stoppage of Edwin Rosario in November 1987 (right).





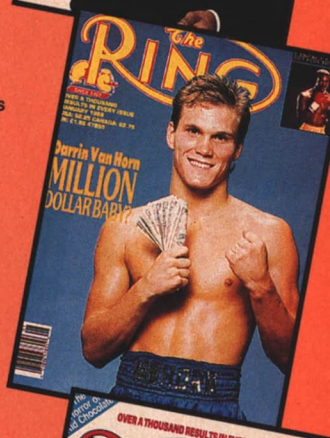
The torch is passed: In January 1988, world heavyweight champion Mike Tyson kayos the comebacking Larry Holmes in four brutal rounds (below).

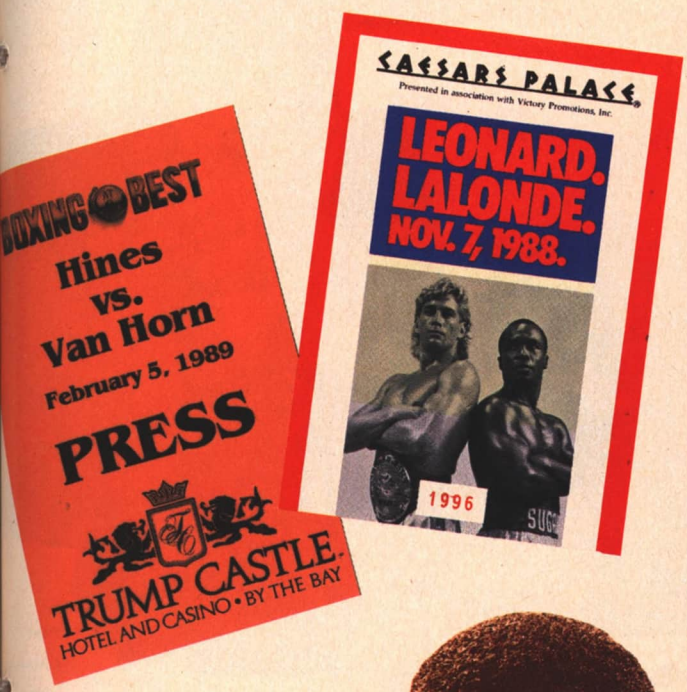


The decade's best heavyweight fight was a March 1989 brawl between rising Evander Holyfield and former champion Michael Dokes. Holyfield won by 10th-round stoppage.

November 1987:

More controversy: Despite Mike Tyson's victory over Tony Tucker, which gives him the WBA, WBC, and IBF titles, *The Ring* continues to recognize Michael Spinks, the linear descendant to John L. Sullivan, as the world heavyweight champion. The issue becomes moot after Tyson kayos Spinks in June 1988.



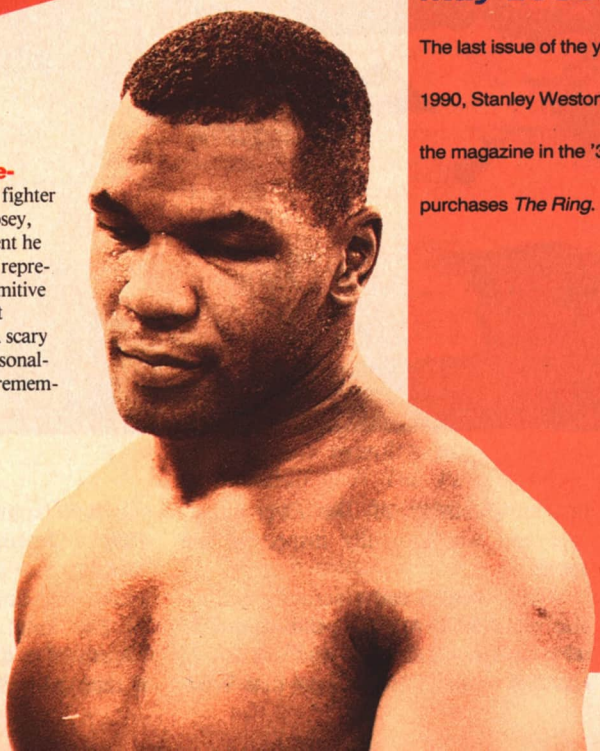


September 1988:

Nigel Collins announces the return of *The Ring's* championship belts, first awarded in the '20s. Today, the belt is awarded annually to the Fighter of the Year.

May 1989:

The last issue of the year. In January 1990, Stanley Weston, who worked on the magazine in the '30s and '40s, purchases *The Ring*.



Personality Of The Decade: Mike Tyson—A fighter for his time, as much as Dempsey, Louis, or Ali. From the moment he crashed onto the scene, Tyson represented a dark ambiguity, a primitive violence, a foreboding evil that seemed right for the decade. A scary question: If Tyson was the personality of the '80s, how will he be remembered in the '90s?

STANLEY WESTON & *THE RING:*

KEEPING A 70-YEAR TRADITION ALIVE

By Steve Farhood

Stanley Weston, the publisher of ***The Ring*** *and the keeper of its 70-year-old tradition.*

It was part *Twilight Zone* and part *This Is Your Life.* In the fall of 1989, Stanley Weston sat in the basement of his office building in Rockville Centre, New York, and rummaged through boxes and boxes of photos, files, and memorabilia. He had just become publisher of *The Ring* magazine and was carefully inspecting the spoils.

When Weston came across a particular piece of artwork, he did a double-take and then sat back and sighed. It was a portrait of Billy Conn that Weston had painted for the cover of *The Ring's* December 1939 issue. Weston hadn't seen the original work in 50 years. His discovery, and his purchase of *The Ring,* symbolized not only the rebirth of a magazine, but a rebirth of a man as well.

In the mid-'80s, when Weston first heard of *The Ring's* financial problems, he reacted with mixed emotions. As a businessman, he was pleased because he published two monthlies, *KO* and *World Boxing,* that rivaled *The Ring*. But as a lifelong lover of the sweet science, the news saddened him. After all, for more than six decades, *The Ring* had been as much a part of boxing as title belts, hand wraps, and spit buckets.

Weston was 10 years old when his father gave him his first issue of *The Ring* in 1929. About three years later, he was playing touch football with friends near his home in Long Beach, New York, when a neighbor approached and asked if he'd like to earn a dollar by mowing his lawn. The neighbor turned out to be Nat Fleischer, and, given Weston's interest in boxing, a friendship quickly blossomed. Fleischer hired Weston in 1937, and, in 1939, Weston painted his first *Ring* cover.

From 1939 through 1951, he painted a total of 57 covers, worked on *The Ring Record Book And Encyclopedia,* and covered boxing and professional wrestling as both a writer and photographer. In the early-'50s, he departed, and soon began publishing his own boxing and wrestling magazines. His relationship with *The Ring* had been fortuitous and enriching, but it was over.

Or so it seemed.

In 1989, Weston, represented by Ken Gudaitis, the president of G.C. London Publishing, began negotiations to buy *The Ring*. For three months, Gudaitis met with former basketball star Dave DeBusschere and his partners, who had bought the magazine in 1979. (Fleischer died in 1972 at age 84.) Under Weston, *The Ring* returned to the newsstands beginning with the issue dated January 1990. Weston called it "the crowning achievement of my career."

"For the first time in years," Weston said, "*The Ring* is financially healthy. When we brought it back, the congratulations poured in from all over the world. The magazine still means a lot to people, and it was all very flattering.

"I've often asked myself what it was about boxing that attracted men like Hemingway and Liebling and Mailer. *The Ring* has subscribers in the House of Commons and the United States Senate. The only answer I can ever come up with is that, while there's nothing worse than a bad fight, there's nothing better than a great one. And one great fight magically makes up for all the yawners."

As *The Ring* celebrates its 70th birthday, Weston finds himself reminiscing—and looking ahead. The future, he's certain, will be as challenging as the past.

"If you see Fleischer," he said, "tell him *The Ring* is in loving hands. The old girl's gonna be just fine."■

THE COMPLETE 70-YEAR LISTING OF THE COVERS OF *THE RING*

THE ALL—TIME TOP TEN

1. Muhammad Ali—77
2. Joe Louis—43
3. Floyd Patterson—35
4. Sugar Ray Robinson—33
5. Joe Frazier—29
6. George Foreman—28
7. Rocky Marciano—22 (tie)
7. Jack Dempsey—22 (tie)
9. Mike Tyson—21 (tie)
9. Sugar Ray Leonard—21 (tie)

Georgie Abrams—2
Virgil Akins—2
Muhammad Ali—77
Lou Ambers—6
Eddie Anderson—1
Cisco Andrade—1
Sammy Angott—1
Vito Antuofermo—1
Fred Apostoli—3
Art Aragon—1
George Araujo—1
Joey Archer—2
Joey Archibald—2
Alexis Arguello—6
Henry Armstrong—11
Tony Ayala—1
Buddy Baer—1
Max Baer—11
Sid Barbarian—1
Gunner Barlund—1
Sal Bartolo—1
Carmen Basilio—12
Benny Bass—1
Percy Bassett—1
Bat Battalino—1
Joe Becerra—2
Archie Bell—1
Mike Belloise—2
Wilfred Benitez—5
Nigel Benn—2
Nino Benvenuti—3
Jackie Berg—2
Paul Berlenbach—1
Jack Bernstein—1
Miguel Berrios—1
Melio Bettina—2
Tyrell Biggs—1
Larry Boardman—1
Duane Bobick—1
Oscar Bonavena—2
Jean-Claude Bouttier—1
Riddick Bowe—2
Bobby Boyd—1
Jim Braddock—9
Livingstone Bramble—2
Dwight Braxton—1
Mark Breland—2
Jack Broughton—1
Lou Brouillard—2
Ben Brown—2
Joe Brown—2
Panama Al Brown—1
Jim Browning—1
Frank Bruno—1
Ken Buchanan—2
Joe Bugner—1
Johnny Bumphus—1
Red Burman—1
Eddie Burnbrook—1
Vic Burrone—1
Rory Calhoun—1
Hector Camacho—2
Vittorio Campolo—1
Gaby Canizales—1
Miguel Canto—1
Tony Canzoneri—10
Michael Carbajal—1
Primo Carnera—5
Jimmy Carruthers—1
Jimmy Carter—4
Walter Cartier—1
Dave Castilloux—1
Marcel Cerdan—2
Antonio Cervantes—2
Wilt Chamberlain—1
Jeff Chandler—1
Ezzard Charles—12
Pierre Charles—1
Julio Cesar Chavez—5
Kid Chocolate—1
Anton Christoforidis—1
George Chuvalo—3
Tex Cobb—1
Freddie Cochrane—2
Don Cockell—2
Gerrie Coetzee—2
Pat Comiskey—1
Billy Conn—12
Gerry Cooney—5
Henry Cooper—2
James J. Corbett—4
Young Corbett—2
Howard Cosell—1
George Courtney—1
Tom Cribb—1
Carlos Cruz—1
Donald Curry—1
Bill Daly—1
Cus D'Amato—1
Laurent Dauthuille—2
Chuck Davey—2
Albert Davila—1
Cat Davis—1
Jack Delaney—2
Paddy DeMarco—1
Tony DeMarco—2
Jack "Nonpareil" Dempsey—1
Jack Dempsey—22
Robert DeNiro—1
Doug DeWitt—2
Andy Divodi—1
George Dixon—2
Michael Dokes—2
Jack Dorval—1
Buster Douglas—1
Terry Downes—2
Jimmy Doyle—1
Jim Driscoll—1
Carl Duane—1
Joe Dundee—1
Johnny Dundee—3
Ralph Dupas—1
Tony Dupre—1
Roberto Duran—9
Ernie Durando—1
Yvon Durelle—1
Lou Duva—1
Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower—1
Harry Ebbets—1
Jimmy Ellis—4
Armand Emanuel—1
Sixto Escobar—2
Tommy Farr—2
Harry Felix—1
Vilomar Fernandez—1
Luis Firpo—2
Bob Fitzsimmons—3
Nat Fleischer—2
Zora Folley—3
Al Foreman—1
George Foreman—28
Bob Foster—2
Mac Foster—1
Kid Francis—1
Joe Frazier—29
Marvis Frazier—1
Tommy Freeman—3
Gene Fullmer—10
Charlie Fusari—1
Tony Galento—2
Victor Galindez—1
Joe Gans—1
Bobby Garcia—1
Ceferino Garcia—3
Kid Gavilan—3
Frankie Genaro—1
Joey Giambra—1
Joey Giardello—5
Tom Gibbons—3
Danny Giovanelli—1
Arturo Godoy—2
Abe Goldstein—1
Ruby Goldstein—1
Wilfredo Gomez—1
Jimmy Goodrich—1
Harry Gordon—1
Billy Graham—1
Rocky Graziano—5
Harry Greb—4
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1920s

(Continued from page 20)

ing his fists in a pair of gloves, generated tingling drama and excitement. His title-winning effort against Willard, who outweighed him by 58 pounds, was considered the most brutal display of violence in the brief history of the modern era; his defense against the overmatched Carpentier was boxing's first million-dollar gate; the first-round knockdown he suffered vs. Argentina's Luis Firpo, after he had scored no less than seven knockdowns of his own, was voted the most dramatic sports moment of the first half of the century; his long-count rematch with Gene Tunney gave boxing a controversial moment that would live forever.

Contrary to popular belief, "The Manassa Mauler," as famous in the '20s as Babe Ruth, was not a beloved champion. Portrayed by the press as a World War I draft dodger, he became a favorite only after losing the title to Tunney. He retired after the rematch, but kept the spotlight until his death at age 87 in 1983. According to Dempsey's wife, his last words were, "Don't worry, honey, I'm too mean to die."

Tunney, forever linked to Dempsey, was as different from his rival as Greenwich Village—his place of birth—was from Manassa, Colorado. Tunney was tall, handsome, and educated, and in the ring he favored brains over muscle. Will Rogers summed up the consensus opinion of the heavyweight champion thusly: "Let's have prizefighters with harder wallops and less Shakespeare." But those who thought Tunney to be brittle were sadly mistaken; "The Fighting Marine" had won four of five fights against the legendary Harry Greb and lost only once in 83 bouts.

Tunney, who made only two defenses of the title, became the first heavyweight champion to retire before losing the belt. In the '20s, only he and Dempsey held the crown. From 1930, when Max Schmeling won the vacant title, through 1937, when Joe Louis began the longest reign in history, there would be no less than six champions.

The '20s offered plenty for those willing to look past the heavyweights. The hungriest fighters were the Irish, Italian, and Jewish immigrants, who engaged in a mix-and-match round robin that enlivened all weight classes from featherweight to middleweight.

Mickey Walker, who grew up in the tough Irish section of Elizabeth, New Jersey, was the type of larger-than-life figure who dominated the decade. He fought world champions from welterweight to heavyweight (incredibly, he held future heavyweight champion Jack Sharkey to a 15-round draw in 1931), and was among the first champions to earn a fortune—and spend every cent of it.

In November 1922, Walker challenged Jack Britton for the 147-pound crown. It was one of boxing's earliest lessons in the passage of time. Britton, 37, had established himself as one of the greatest artists in ring history. But Walker, young and strong, captured the title via decision. Wrote Harry Newman in the New York *Daily News,* "Poor Jack Britton! The old champion cried in the center of the ring while the crowd gave him probably the greatest ovation that ever was accorded a fallen champion. . . . there was no hesitancy in the end when the officials declared in favor of the Jerseyite. Youth had to be served."

Tony Canzoneri looked like a cross between Babe Ruth and Edward G. Robinson. A native of Slidell, Louisiana, he moved to Brooklyn, and, at age 19, won the featherweight title by decisioning Johnny Dundee in October 1927. He would become one of the ring's first triple-crown champions, adding the lightweight and junior welterweight crowns in the early-'30s.

At 5'5", Canzoneri gave away size to almost every opponent. He also gave away power, scoring only 44 kayos in 175 total bouts. But he displayed the kind of courage that guaranteed popularity, if not success. He was the protege of Petey Herman, a

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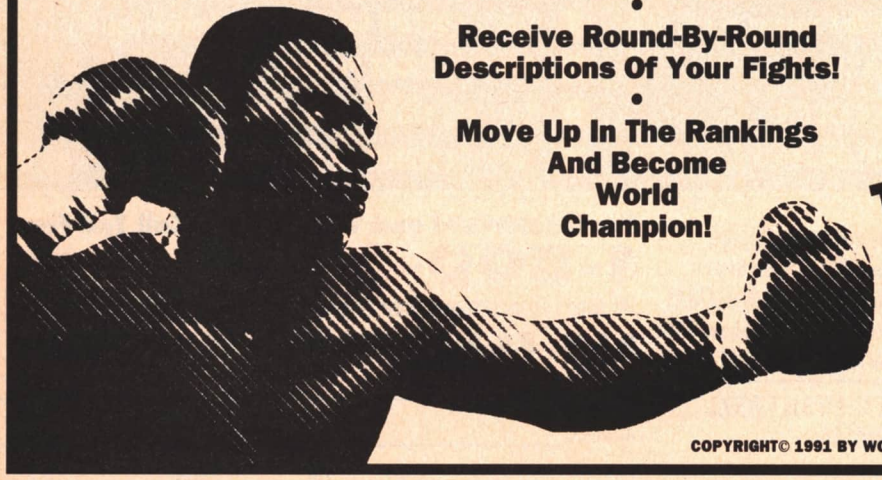

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former bantamweight champion who, in his later years, went blind. Herman kept a tavern in New Orleans, and whenever fighters would visit, he'd feel their muscles because he couldn't see their faces.

Upon meeting Primo Carnera, he said, "You're a giant of a man, but you're musclebound."

Of Max Baer, he said, "The world's most wonderful build, but no heart."

But of Canzoneri, he said, while tapping the boxer's chest, "You will be a great fighter, my boy, because you have a great heart."

Perhaps the most complete fighter of the '20s was Benny Leonard, born Benjamin Leiner on the Lower East Side of New York City. Considered along with Joe Gans to be the greatest lightweight of the division's first 70 years, he reigned from 1917 until his exit in 1925. (Leonard, devoted to his mother, retired at her request.) But the stock market crash wiped him out, and he began a comeback in 1931. It was ironic that Leonard's second career was ended by Jimmy McLarnin in 1932; in an era of ethnic matchups, McLarnin, an Irishman from Canada, built his reputation by defeating most of the top Jewish fighters. In knocking out Leonard, he beat the best of them all. ■

1930s

(Continued from page 26)

mained a white hope world. But "The Brown Bomber" was the right fighter for his time. He was quiet and unthreatening, and, whether by design or nature, smart enough not to alienate the public. Louis would become a role model and legitimate American hero, and, as sportwriter Jimmy Cannon would write, "A credit to his race—the human race."

In *Joe Louis: Black Hero In White America,* Chris Mead wrote that initially, at least, the press portrayed Louis as either "a savage animal or a sleepy-eyed Southern darkie." The public, however, embraced him from the start.

" . . . white writers defined Joe Louis as different from themselves," Mead wrote. "But whites did accept Louis as a celebrity and accepted his victories over white boxers. That was new and important ground, given the lack of other celebrities and the memories of Jack Johnson . . . "

Louis was drastically different in temperament than Jackie Robinson, who in 1947 would serve as a pioneer in a different arena. But his influence was no less profound.

In the ring, Louis gave fight fans something different. In the modern era, John L. Sullivan had created the myth of the heavyweight champion as the world's strongest man, and Jack Dempsey had perpetuated it. But Sullivan and Dempsey were brawlers, while Louis was a studied assassin who conserved energy and uncoiled to strike with deadly precision. After kayoing 19 of his first 23 opponents, including former champions Primo Carnera and Max Baer, he was thought to be invincible. But in June 1936, he suffered his first defeat, a knockout loss to Germany's Max Schmeling. Until their rematch, and even after Louis won the title, there was sentiment that he was an overhyped pretender.

The Louis-Schmeling rematch, fought for the world title at Yankee Stadium in June 1938, rates with the most significant fights in history. On one level, the fight defined Louis' career. After whipping Braddock, he said, "I don't want to be called champ until I lick Max *Smelling.*" The rematch turned out to be the fourth of Louis' record 25 defenses, and, along with his come-from-behind stoppage of Billy Conn, the most significant.

But the fight transcended the ring. After Schmeling's kayo of Louis, Adolf Hitler and his Minister of Propaganda, Joseph Goebbels, had pointed to Schmeling as an example of Aryan supremacy. (In fact, the former champion, who was immensely popular in the States, had a Jewish manager.) By the time the rematch was signed, Hitler was a very real threat, and the fight had assumed political overtones.

Louis destroyed Schmeling in 124 seconds. One sportswriter described the film of the fight as "probably the most faithful recording ever made of human savagery." The champion would reign for another 10 years.

Louis may have been boxing's most prolific heavyweight champion, but in comparison to Armstrong, he was a champion in hiding. A 5'5½" dynamo, "Hammerin' Hank" threw punches by the dozen. Unlike other perpetual punchers, however, he threw them with kayo power.

In October 1937, Armstrong won the featherweight title by stopping Petey Sarron. In May 1938, he added the welterweight crown by decisioning a faded great, Barney Ross. And only 10 weeks after that, he became the first fighter in history to simultaneously hold three titles when he outpointed lightweight king Lou Ambers. (In March 1940, Armstrong tried for a fourth title, but, scaling only 142, he was held to a 10-round draw by middleweight champion Ceferino Garcia.)

Armstrong is best remembered for his feats of 1937-38, but what he did in 1939 was no less remarkable. As the reigning 147-pound champion, he defended the title *11* times. In all, he made 19 successful defenses, which remains a welterweight record.

Boasting of Louis and Armstrong, and champions such as Ross, Ambers, Conn, Maxie Rosenbloom, Jimmy McLarnin, and Tony Canzoneri, the '30s compares favorably to any other decade. Interestingly,

(Continued on page 80)

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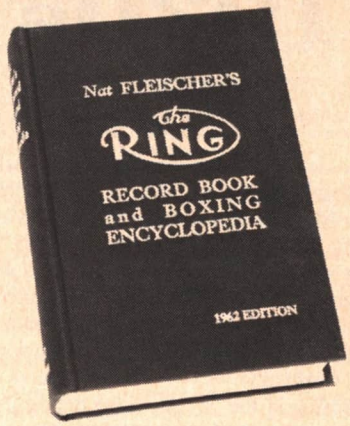

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1930s

(Continued from page 79)

however, the middleweight division, which flaunted Harry Greb and Mickey Walker in the '20s, and would feature Jake LaMotta, Tony Zale, and Marcel Cerdan in the '40s, was void of stars. From January 1932, when Gorilla Jones won the title vacated by Walker, through the end of the decade, 12 fighters held claim to at least a version of the world title.

Boxing in the '30s provided opportunities not only for Americans looking to survive the Depression, but also for foreign-born fighters from nations that had not previously contributed to the roster of world champions. Bantamweight legend Al Brown, who made nine successful defenses, reigned as the first champion from Panama. Featherweight and junior lightweight Kid Chocolate, unbeaten in his first 52 bouts, was crowned the first champion from Cuba. And bantamweight Sixto Escobar, dominant in the middle of the decade, became the first champion from Puerto Rico.

It is difficult to argue with those who maintain that the '30s was the greatest decade in boxing history.■

1940s

(Continued from page 34)

cade, champions like Louis boxed exhibitions for the USO, and Armed Service tournaments were held throughout Europe and Northern Africa. There was boxing at home as well, but the focus of most Americans was on the war.

In the early part of the decade, the absence of boxing's top stars created opportunities for the fighters who remained stateside. Perhaps no one took advantage as much as Beau Jack, a lightweight with a style that would have drawn fans in any era. From 1941 to '49, Jack headlined 21 cards at Madison Square Garden and fought there 27 times. In one month—March 1944—he fought three times, with each bout coming against world-class opposition. And on August 4, 1944, he and Bob Montgomery, who, coincidentally, was drafted on the same day, headlined a Garden show that produced a record gate of more than $35-million. (The extraordinary figure was the result of the sale of war bonds.)

It was ironic that in a decade of unforgettable fights, the most anticipated bout of all was a bust. In June 1941, Louis had been behind on points when he kayoed former light heavyweight champion Conn in round 13. Military service interrupted the careers of both fighters, but as the war wound down, Louis and Conn toured military bases together, and it was understood that a rematch was inevitable. In June 1946, promoter Mike Jacobs sold the best seats at New York City's Polo Grounds for an unheard of $100, and more than 45,000 fans attended. Both champion and challenger, however, had slowed considerably. Conn, who had always banked on speed, had become a target, and Louis, still a crippling puncher, downed him in eight unpleasing rounds.

Unlike Louis-Conn, the Zale-Graziano and Pep-Saddler bouts disappointed no one. In his first post-War defense, 160-pound king Zale, 33 and faded, clashed at Yankee Stadium with Graziano, an electric, bonecrushing right-hand puncher who, though a blown-up welterweight, answered the opening bell as the favorite. Both middleweights were floored early. By round three, Zale was bloodied and boxing with a broken right thumb. Seeking a spectacular finish, Graziano issued bell-to-bell punishment, but Zale somehow endured. Stumbling across the ring in the fifth, the champion appeared through. But Graziano decelerated for a split second in the sixth, and Zale saved the title with a right to the midsection-hook to the jaw combination

(Continued on page 84)

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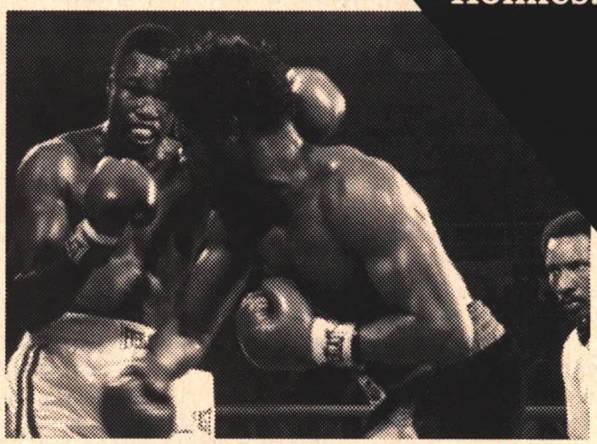

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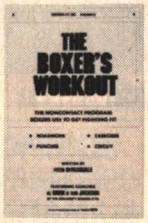

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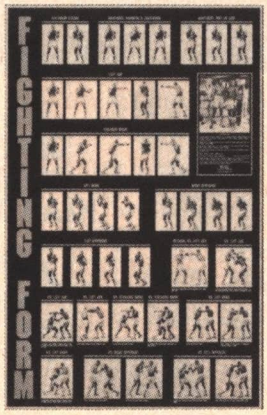

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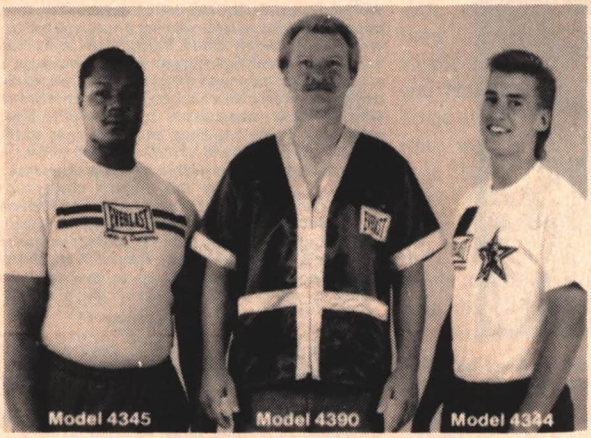

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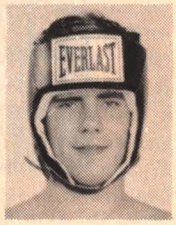

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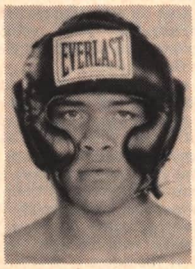

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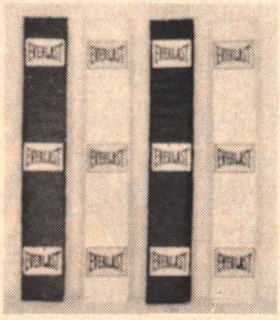

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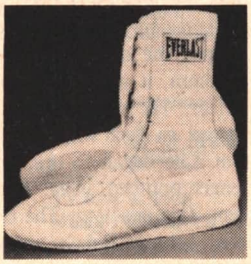

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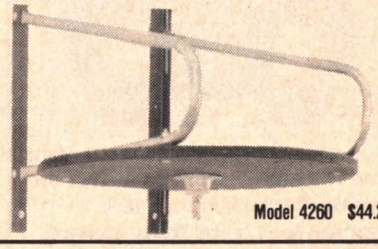

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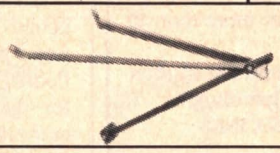

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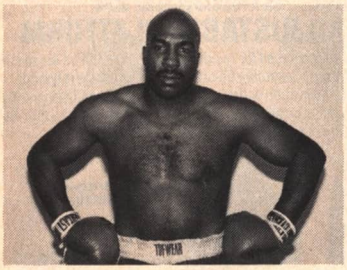

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1940s

(Continued from page 80)

that dropped the challenger for the count. The fight was the decade's best, with Zale's performance described as the guttiest middleweight effort since the days of Stanley Ketchel.

"Rocky wasn't hurt," recalled Don Dunphy, who called the fight on radio, "but it was like he was paralyzed. When I interviewed Zale after the fight, he could barely stand up. I've always said that fight was the greatest I ever saw."

Amazingly, Zale-Graziano II almost topped the original. This time, at Chicago Stadium, it was Graziano who flirted with defeat. He was decked in the third and forced to box with cut and swollen eyes. But Zale began to tire, and the eager challenger bombed away. In the sixth, a hook sent Zale crashing. The champion beat referee Johnny Behr's count, but wasn't allowed to continue.

Zale, a 12-5 underdog in the third encounter, dominated from the start, dropped Graziano in the first round, and scored a third-round kayo. Never again would boxing produce as raw and savage a rivalry.

In the ring, at least, Pep and Saddler were as different as Zale and Graziano were alike. Though featherfisted, Pep was a boxer the equal of Benny Leonard, and one of the finest defensive fighters in history. (Legend has it that in the third round of a July 1946 non-title bout against Jackie Graves, Pep dodged, feinted, clinched, and spun. He didn't throw a single punch—and won the round all three cards.) He lost only one of his first 136 fights, and, in October 1948, defended against Saddler at Madison Square Garden.

If Pep was the finest pure boxer in 126-pound history, Saddler was arguably the finest pure puncher. In taking the title, he floored Pep twice in the third, and once, for the count, in the fourth. Ten weeks later, they were rematched at the Garden. (In total, their grudge series consisted of a total of four foul-filled bouts, with the last two, both Saddler kayo victories, coming in the early-'50s.) In the Fight of the Year, Pep regained the crown with a bitterly fought 15-round decision.

Years later, when asked why he so often brawled with Saddler, Pep told *Sports Illustrated,* "He got my goat. He made me forget I was clever."

As the '40s drew to a close, managers, fighters, and especially promoters were forced to make difficult decisions. Television had become a major factor in boxing, and Gillette was sponsoring televised cards from Madison Square Garden. In June 1948, history was made when, for the first time, millions of Americans watched a heavyweight title fight—Louis-Jersey Joe Walcott II—live.

In an editorial in *The Ring,* Dan M. Daniel spoke for all of boxing when he wrote, "To televise or not to televise? That is the question."

In the decade to come, the question would no longer be asked. The answer was understood. ■

1950s

(Continued from page 42)

In short, by the end of the '50s, boxing resembled the '80s much more than the '40s. And, like the '80s, the decade was solid at the top, with all-time greats reigning at heavyweight, light heavyweight, and middleweight.

Rocky Marciano began the '50s by capturing his 26th consecutive victory, a disputed split decision over Roland LaStarza. At the time, fight fans were unaware of the significance of the verdict; six years later, Marciano would retire as the only unbeaten champion in history. His legacy: a record of 49-0 with 43 kayos.

Marciano held the heavyweight title for less than four years, but his reign was chock-full of drama. In winning the crown from Jersey Joe Walcott, he trailed on points until landing the most famous single blow of all-time, a short right cross that finished Walcott in round 13. In defending it in a rematch vs. former champion Ezzard Charles, he had to overcome a gruesome cut that had split the left side of his nose in two. And in risking it for the sixth and last time, he rose from the canvas to kayo light heavyweight champion Archie Moore. Then, on April 27, 1956, Marciano did something remarkable: He left the ring at the request of his wife, and, despite several rumored comebacks, never returned.

"I got tired of having to be introduced to my daughter," he explained at his retirement press conference.

Marciano's successor was Olympic gold medalist Floyd Patterson. Because of title fight losses to Ingemar Johansson and especially Sonny Liston, Patterson is remembered as a fighter who cheapened the most precious title in sports. Ironically, in retirement, he has done nothing but enrich boxing.

It can be argued that Sugar Ray Robinson peaked in the '40s, when he reigned as welterweight champion. But it was in the '50s, during which he won the middleweight title five times, and lost it three times, that he secured his reputation as the greatest fighter in history.

"You are the king, my master, my idol," Muhammad Ali, who knew the *real* "Greatest" when he saw him, once told Robinson.

Primarily a boxer at welterweight, Rob-

(Continued on page 86)

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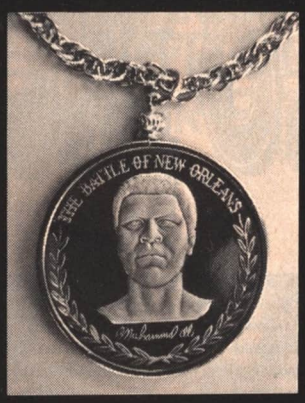

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1950s

(Continued from page 84)

inson developed into a versatile middleweight and mastered what he believed was the key to his success: the ability to adapt to his opponent's style. He was slick enough to outbox Jake LaMotta and Carmen Basilio and strong enough to kayo Randy Turpin and Gene Fullmer. He was also colorful enough to demand attention, driving a pink Cadillac through the streets of Harlem and spending most of the purse money for which he had tenaciously negotiated.

If the '50s offered a glimpse of boxing in the '80s, then Robinson can accurately be described as an athlete ahead of his time. And for all times.

Like Marciano and Robinson, Archie Moore became a living legend. But it took him a whole lot longer to achieve that status. (Marciano won the heavyweight title in his 43rd fight, Robinson the middleweight title in his 76th fight, and Moore the light heavyweight title in his *156th* fight, at age 39.) "The Ol' Mongoose" would hold the 175-pound crown for the better part of the decade, score the most kayos in history (129), and fight until age 49, though no one can verify his birthdate.

Just as importantly, however, he represented a handful of black fighters who, because they were too talented for their own good, were denied opportunities. In the '40s, Charley Burley, Holman Williams, Jimmy Bivins, Ezzard Charles, and Moore were among the best fighters in the game. But only Charles and Moore reached the top. (In December 1952, when Moore dethroned Joey Maxim, his purse was only $800.)

Forget that Jack Johnson had reigned as heavyweight champion as early as 1908. In boxing, there has always been discrimination, though it has been softened by the years. What happened to Moore and his black contemporaries in the '40s and '50s had happened in the '20s to Harry Wills, the leading contender for Jack Dempsey's heavyweight title, and would happen to Marvin Hagler in the late-'70s. Explaining his inability to secure a middleweight title shot, Hagler lamented, "I'm black, a southpaw, and good."

So was Wills, and, more than 20 years later, Burley, Williams, Bivins, Charles, and Moore.

While fighters like Moore, Robinson, Sandy Saddler, and Jimmy Carter symbolized a breakthrough for black American fighters, the '50s offered historic opportunities for boxers from abroad. Bantamweight Jimmy Carruthers became the first universally recognized champion from Australia; bantamweight Vic Toweel became the first champion from South Africa; flyweight Yoshio Shirai became the first champion from Japan; flyweight Pascual Perez became the first champion from Argentina; and Hogan "Kid" Bassey became the first champion from Nigeria.

By 1960, boxing was being played on an international stage. For the next 20 years, however, it would be an American, Muhammad Ali, who would command the spotlight. ■

1960s

(Continued from page 50)

In February 1964, there was yet another change, when 1960 Olympic gold medalist Cassius Clay stopped 7-1 favorite Liston. The day after he won the title, the newly crowned champion adopted a Muslim name, Muhammad Ali. Clearly, the changes were just beginning.

"More than any other American," actor James Earl Jones would say years later, "[Ali] is a being who is constantly redefining himself."

As a champion, Ali was as overwhelming with his boxing skills as Joe Louis had been with his punching power. He kayoed Liston in the first round of their controversial rematch, and then successfully defended against a slew of overmatched challengers: Patterson, George Chuvalo, Henry Cooper, Brian London, Karl Mildenberger, Cleveland Williams, Ernie Terrell, and Zora Folley. In the ring, Ali wouldn't be tested until the '70s. Outside, however, he exhibited a champion's courage and heart from the start.

It was inevitable that Ali's conversion to the Muslim faith would enrage White America. In the early-'60s, the most radical of Muslims, led by Ali's mentor, Malcolm X, spoke of the white man as a devil. Ali eventually denounced Malcolm X, but his image suffered nonetheless. He remained a Muslim, and his manager remained Herbert Muhammad, a son of Elijah Muhammad, the leader of the Nation of Islam.

Outspoken as he was, and threatening as he was perceived to be, Ali further angered the establishment by positioning himself in the center of the decade's most controversial issue, the war in Vietnam. Citing his religious beliefs, he refused induction into the armed forces.

"Man, I ain't got no quarrel with them Viet Cong," he said.

One hour after he refused induction, and before he was charged with any crime, Ali was stripped of his license and title by the New York State Athletic Commission. The other commissions quickly followed. (In June 1967, he was convicted of draft evasion. The conviction was reversed by the Supreme Court in June 1971.)

Ali, 25 and in his prime, wouldn't fight from March 1967 until October 1970. His absence allowed 1964 gold medalist Joe

(Continued on page 88)

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1960s

(Continued from page 86)

Frazier to establish himself as the world's best heavyweight. Wielding a destructive left hook, "Smokin' Joe" won 24 straight bouts and, in February 1970, would kayo Jimmy Ellis, who had succeeded Ali. Ali's exile robbed him of his best years, but it also contributed to the development of the greatest rivalry in boxing history.

Despite what the headlines may have led fans to believe, there was boxing outside of the heavyweight ranks. And, at least at the top, more of it than ever before. The creation of the junior middleweight division, and the return of the junior welterweight and junior lightweight classes, resulted in a drastic increase in world title fights. (In the '50s, there were 145 title fights; in the '60s, 248.) To a large degree, the junior divisions were led by foreign-born fighters. Ki Soo Kim, the first world champion from South Korea, and Italy's Nino Benvenuti were among the titlists at 154 pounds; Carlos Hernandez, the first world champion from Venezuela, and Argentine defensive genius Nicolino Locche were crowned at 140 pounds; and Filipino Flash Elorde dominated at 130 pounds. Other first-time champions: bantamweight Eder Jofre, from Brazil, and flyweight Pone Kingpetch, from Thailand.

On two drastically different levels, the decade was symbolized by welterweight and middleweight champion Griffith and bantamweight—and future featherweight—champion Olivares.

At the end of the '50s, the court-ordered breakup of the IBC confirmed beliefs that boxing had been controlled by undesirables. At the start of the '60s, the death of Benny Paret confirmed beliefs that the sport was brutal and dangerous. Perhaps to an unacceptable degree.

In March 1962, Griffith defended the 147-pound crown in a rubber match vs. former champion Paret at Madison Square Garden. In round six, Paret scored a knockdown, but in the 12th, a right staggered the Cuban, and Griffith poured in hook after hook. After referee Ruby Goldstein stepped in, Paret, already unconscious, slumped to the canvas. Ten days after the bout, he died.

The tragedy was hardly boxing's first, but it had been seen live by millions on national television. Paret's death led to an investigation, protests, and demands that boxing be banned. But punchers kept punching, and among those who did it better than most was Olivares, a gap-toothed, fun-loving 118-pound Mexican with a left hook that would ultimately be used to illustrate boxing textbooks.

In 1968, Olivares first introduced Southern California's fight fans, most of whom are Mexican-American, to his charisma and appeal. In August 1969, more than 18,000 fans came to the Fabulous Forum to watch him dethrone world bantamweight champion Lionel Rose. Throughout his title reigns at 118 and 126 pounds, "Rockabye Ruben" would draw huge crowds to the Forum.

If the Griffith-Paret fight represented the ugly side of boxing, Olivares represented the human side. By the end of the decade, he was as popular among his people as Muhammad Ali would ever be. ■

1970s

(Continued from page 58)

weight division alone. The biggest change, however, came in the makeup of the roster of champions. At one point in 1977, there were only three titlists from the United States (Muhammad Ali, Carlos Palomino, and Danny Lopez). An aging Ali and his heavyweight rivals had retained center stage, but one of the two best fighters in the world, middleweight champion Carlos Monzon, was Argentine, and the other, lightweight champion Roberto Duran, was Panamanian.

For American fight fans, the decade's high point was provided by amateurs when the 1976 U.S. Olympic team unexpectedly captured five gold medals. After the Games, Howard Davis Jr., Ray Leonard, Leo Randolph, Leon Spinks, and Michael Spinks were stars-in-the-making. For the first time since the '50s, commercial television, and especially ABC, which had televised the Olympics, had a reason to air weekend fights. And each gold medalist, with the exception of Davis, justified the attention by eventually winning world titles.

In the '70s, Ali's most significant fights occurred inside the ring, and by the end of his incredible run, he had won the hearts of even his harshest critics, and established himself as the most famous man in the world. The first critical step in the alteration of his image came with his loss to Frazier. He fought gallantly for 15 grueling rounds, rose from a thunderous last-round knockdown, and, throughout the bout, displayed the heart he had never needed to call on during his title reign.

Two years after losing to Frazier, Ali suffered a broken jaw in the first round of a nationally televised decision loss to Ken Norton. His courage and perseverance symbolized a change: In the '60s, he had taken pride in his ability to avoid punishment. In the '70s, he seemed to take pride in his ability to absorb it.

In October 1974, Ali became only the second heavyweight in history to regain the title—Floyd Patterson had been the first—when he upset Foreman in Zaire. Before the fight, Foreman, like Liston 10 years before, was hyped as unbeatable and indestructible. But where, in 1964, fans had rooted for Liston to shut Cassius Clay's

mouth, in 1974, they cheered first for Ali's survival, and then for his glory.

Veteran Ali-watchers have often said that "The Greatest" should have retired after his third battle with Frazier. October 1975's "Thrilla In Manila" was a classic heavyweight slugfest, with both fighters wavering between victory and defeat. When Frazier wasn't allowed by his corner to answer the bell for round 15, Ali, having given more than anyone would dare have asked, collapsed in his corner.

It wasn't, of course, a closing of the curtain. There would still be a draining third bout vs. Norton, a punishing defense against the division's hardest hitter, Earnie Shavers, and a loss and rematch win over neophyte Leon Spinks.

In the waning moments of the Spinks rematch, with Ali's points victory only minutes away, ABC's Howard Cosell recited a portion of the lyrics of Bob Dylan's "Forever Young." His timing was perfect; the sentiment seemed to apply not only to Ali, but to all of us.

Neither Monzon nor Duran would remain forever young, but during the '70s, they had the time to establish themselves as all-time greats in their respective divisions. Monzon set a division record with 14 successful defenses, rejecting the challenges of such threats as Emile Griffith, Nino Benvenuti, Bennie Briscoe, Rodrigo Valdes, and dominant welterweight king Jose Napoles. Before retiring in August 1977, he extended his unbeaten streak to 81 bouts and 13 years. Duran set a division record with 12 successful defenses, kept the crown for 6½ years before vacating, and, in June 1979, hinted at accomplishments still to come by outpointing former welterweight champion Carlos Palomino.

Like Ali, Monzon and Duran became stars at least partly because they projected distinctive images. Monzon was the international playboy who dated gorgeous actresses and dismissed his challengers with cool precision. Duran was the Satanic hit man who lived to fight, and was loved for it. But not all of the decade's best fighters commanded the spotlight and enjoyed mass appeal.

● Where fun-loving featherweight champion Bobby Chacon engaged in an Olivares-like love affair with Southern California's rabid fans, Brazil's Eder Jofre received minimal credit for a remarkable accomplishment: winning the 126-pound crown 6½ years after he retired as a former bantamweight champion.

● Where junior welterweight and welterweight champion Wilfred Benitez entered the record books by becoming, at 17, the youngest champion in history, the fighter he dethroned, brilliant Colombian 140-pound champion Antonio Cervantes, was acknowledged only by purists.

● Where featherweight and junior lightweight champion Alexis Arguello and light heavyweight king Bob Foster secured reputations by fighting on commercial and closed-circuit TV, respectively, a pair of Mexicans, powerpunching bantamweight Carlos Zarate and slick flyweight Miguel Canto, were recognized solely by the game's most devoted followers.

In the '70s, there wasn't room for everyone. In fact, after Ali and the heavyweights, there really wasn't room for anyone. But, as symbolized by Leonard's November 1979 victory over Benitez, that would change in the years to come. ■

1980s

(Continued from page 66)

end of the alphabet soup pot.

Howard Cosell signed off boxing for good; world title bouts were cut from 15 rounds to 12 after the deaths of Duk Koo Kim, Kiko Bejines, and Johnny Owen; and a one-legged fighter with a prosthesis, Craig Bodzianowski, contended for the cruiserweight crown. Cruiserweight? That's a division hidden—and we do mean hidden—somewhere between light heavyweight and heavyweight. Its illegitimate birth was yet another bizarre legacy of the '80s.

The weirdness was ever-present, but, fortunately, not all-consuming. The three T's—television, Tyson, and the tinier guys—made their own big impact. Until the '80s, the tube had never affected a sport so thoroughly, nor changed its own role in a sport as dramatically. The NFL strike in 1982 resulted in the most free-TV exposure for boxing in 20 years. By the end of the decade, though, decreased advertiser interest and a general financial crunch in the networks' sports departments had cut the number of fight telecasts drastically.

Partly because the networks' busy schedules allowed them time to develop new stars, and partly because of the impact America's '76 Olympians made when they turned pro, the lighter guys began cashing some heavy checks. As WBA champion, Jeff Chandler enjoyed $250,000 paydays, previously unheard of for a bantamweight. And middleweight king Marvin Hagler commanded $1-million *minimum* per title defense.

But it was Sugar Ray Leonard, as close to a Xerox copy of Ali as we'll probably ever see, who shook the fight game's pay scale so hard that it still hasn't stopped vibrating. Six Sugary paydays exceeded $10-million. With his first fight against Roberto Duran in '80, Leonard revived a closed-circuit TV industry that had been dormant in the post-Ali era. And by the time he squared off with Duran for a third time, he was giving one of the earliest sparks to pay-per-view, a comfortable alternative to sitting in a crowded theater and watching a muddied picture.

The emergence of the lighter-weight fighters, or the public's decision to look in their direction for a change, was also the result of a heavyweight division that was becoming an embarrassment to history. If the '70s was the division's most glorious era, the first half of the '80s was its most uproarious error.

After Holmes kayoed Gerry Cooney in a 1982 clash that focused the entire world's microscope on the sweet science, the division lapsed into a funk. Holmes, who wore the WBC belt and later the IBF crown, made a series of ho-hum defenses. Meanwhile, the top contenders seemed to have worked out a secret agreement in which they'd pass around a title belt and take turns posing with it. At various times from 1980 to '87, John Tate, Mike Weaver, Michael Dokes, Gerrie Coetzee, Tim Witherspoon, Pinklon Thomas, Greg Page, Trevor Berbick, Tony Tubbs, Bonecrusher Smith, Tony Tucker, and Michael Spinks all called themselves heavyweight champion. So, too, did a kid from the Brooklyn ghetto, Michael Gerard Tyson.

With a combination of power not seen since the destructive prime of Foreman, and hand speed not evident since a young Ali made slo-mo replay a necessity rather than a luxury, Tyson marched through the division, finally unifying the fragmented title in 1987. Like Leonard, he was a trailblazer who transcended the sports pages. Clad in nothing but basic black, and eschewing a robe and socks, it was as though he had been pressed like a rose between the pages of an old issue of *The Ring*, and had sprung out when someone unexpectedly stumbled across him.

Tyson's finest moment came in June 1988, when he broke Spinks' spirit and the $20-million purse barrier for a single fight with a 91-second blitzkrieg. Tyson-Spinks was, at the time, the highest-grossing battle in history. But it was just one of a half-dozen unforgettable '80s bouts, each called "The Fight Of The Century." The others:

Leonard-Duran I, the night when a Panamanian bully worked himself into a rage so frightening that he would have been dangerous against most light heavyweights; Leonard-Hearns I, the comeback victory that established Leonard as the miracle worker of his generation; Holmes-Cooney, a promotion that tapped into racial passion and proved that doing so can still be lucrative; Hagler-Hearns, the eight most furious minutes ever; and Leonard-Hagler, the greatest upset in sports history—at least until Buster Douglas would topple Tyson in 1990.

The '80s will be remembered for many great fights and a few great fighters, but mostly for changes that will end up affecting the fight game far more drastically than any guy with gloves on his hands ever could. Not long after the Leonards, Holmeses, and Hearnses disappear for good, boxing on free-TV, the idea of one champion per division, and any semblance of structure within the sport may disappear, too.

If boxing rockets toward even more chaos and hard times, remember that it was the '80s that served as the launch pad. ■

Summary

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Lennox Lewis KO 2 Glenn McCrory
Bonecrusher Smith KO 1 Jeff Sims
Bonecrusher Smith KO 10 Marshall Tillman
Phillip Jackson KO 5 Carl L. Williams
Adilson Rodrigues KO 4 Eduardo Amarillo
Adilson Rodrigues KO 3 Daniel Guibaudo
Corrie Sanders W 10 Mike Rouse
Derek Williams KO 6 David Bey
Paul Poirer W 10 Mark Machain

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Al Cole KO 3 Mike DeVito
Don Lalonde KO 7 Bert Gravely

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Graciano Rocchigiani KO 9 Alex Blanchard
Anthony Hembrick KO 2 James Williamson
Leeonzer Barber KO 5 Tony Willis
Iran Barkley Tech. Dec. 8 Jesus Castaneda
Guy Waters W 12 Leslie Stewart
Henry Maske W 8 Rodrigo Benech
Ramzi Hassan KO 1 Manuel Murillo
Drake Thadzi KO 4 Jimmy Harrison

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Slugger O'Toole KO 6 Ian Strudwick
Steve Little W 12 Tyrone Frazier

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
James Toney KO 4 Francesco Dell'Aquila
(Retains IBF Title)
Mike McCallum KO 5 Nicky Walker
(Non-Title Bout)
Chris Eubank KO 12 Michael Watson
John Mugabi KO 4 Kevin Whaley-El
Cornelius Carr KO 7 Marvin O'Brian

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Vinny Pazienza KO 12 Gilbert Dele
(Wins WBA Title)
Julio Cesar Vasquez KO 9 Tyrone Trice

WELTERWEIGHTS
Maurice Blocker W 12 Glenwood Brown
(Wins Vacant IBF Title)
Buddy McGirt KO 5 Alfredo Ramirez
Crisanto Espana KO 4 Newton Barnett
Santos Cardona KO 5 Tim Rabon
Antoine Fernandez KO 2 Edwin Luis Rivera
Nick Rupa W 10 Oscar Ponce
Larry Barnes W 10 David Taylor
Stephen Johnson KO 1 Victor Acosta

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Charles Murray KO 3 Manuel Salas
Oba Carr W 10 Livingstone Bramble
Anthony Jones KO 2 Octavio Montero
Todd Foster KO 6 Dwayne Swift
Carl Griffith W 10 Livingstone Bramble
Tony Martin KO 2 Darryl Richardson
Pedro Sanchez W 8 Martin Quiroz
John Rafuse W 10 Jose Torres
Donald Stokes W 10 Primo Ramos

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Pernell Whitaker W 12 Jorge Paez
(Retains World Title)
Jeff Mayweather W 10 Juan Carlos Alvarado
Jimmy Paul KO 2 Juan Nunez

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
John Doherty W 12 Sugar Gibiliru
Ditau Molefyane W 10 Pee Wee Parker
Jerome Coffee KO 7 Cami Novi
Hugh Forde W 12 Thunder Ayeh

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Tom Johnson KO 2 Gerardo Sanchez
Colin McMillan KO 7 Kevin Pritchard
Kennedy McKinney KO 1 Mauro Montes
Eun Sik Lee W 10 Joe Hiyas

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Raul Perez W 12 Luis Mendoza
(Wins WBA Title)
Welcome Ncita W 12 Baby Sugar Rojas
(Retains IBF Title)
Jemal Hinton KO 2 Mario Lozano

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Joichiro Tatsuyoshi KO 10 Greg Richardson
(Wins WBC Title)
Orlando Canizales W 12 Fernie Morales
(Retains IBF Title)
Dio Andujar KO 4 Eddie Cook
Gerardo Martinez KO 5 Robert Rios
Donnie Hood W 12 Rocky Commey
Joel Luna Zarate KO 3 Juan Aguilar
Happy Lora W 10 Rolando Bohol

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS
Sot Chitalada KO 5 Ferry Tarona Balus
Thalernsak Sithbaobay KO 4 Chan Woo Park

FLYWEIGHTS
Yong Kang Kim W 12 Leo Gamez
(Retains WBA Title)
Muangchai Kittikasem W 10 Lito Gonzaga
(Non-Title Bout)
Scotty Olson KO 2 Juventino Delgado
Yun Un Chin W 10 Sergio Pepito
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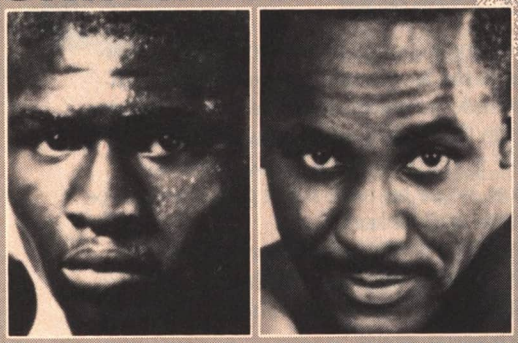

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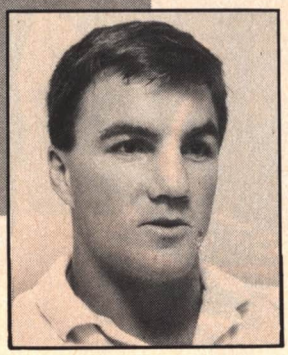


Jeff Harding

Vinny Pazienza is a two-time world champion, and so is Darrin Van Horn. So why not add Harding to the list of overachievers? In September, the Aussie with the bad attitude outgutted archrival Dennis Andries in a see-saw 12-rounder to regain the WBC light heavyweight title.

Harding, your ordinary bloke from the outback, showed extraordinary courage and determination. While his reign is not guaranteed to be a long one, it is sure to be exciting while it lasts.

As the newly crowned champion, Harding will be confronted by a long list of eager contenders. It's good to know that he has his priorities in order. When asked of his future plans, he said, "I want to go surfing."

Joichiro Tatsuyoshi KO 10 Greg Richardson,

Moriguchi, Japan—In his eighth pro bout, Japanese underdog Tatsuyoshi, 117¼, impressively captured the WBC bantamweight title, stalking defending champion Richardson, 116, and pummeling him into submission at the end of the 10th round.

The 21-year-old challenger was both aggressive and accurate from the start. Richardson, 34, kept retreating, and in the third, began scoring with his world-class jab. But Tatsuyoshi dominated the fourth, fifth, and sixth, coming forward and applying tremendous pressure.

Richardson, who was making his second defense, temporarily slowed his rival in the seventh, when he rocked him with a six-punch combination. Tatsuyoshi rebounded in the eighth, however, and battered Richardson with fast flurries. The Japanese kept on the pressure in the ninth, and in the closing seconds of the 10th, he caught Richardson with several blows. The champion's eyes were swollen, and given his sluggish performance, trainer Earl Charity wisely chose to surrender before the start of the 11th.

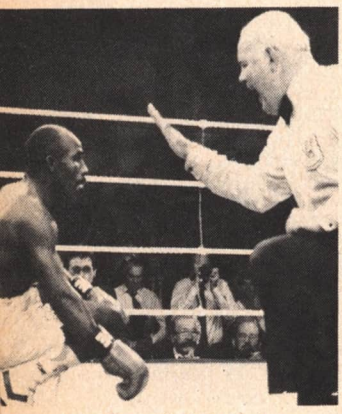
The scores after 10 rounds: Dr. James Jen Kin, 98-91; Henry Elespuru, 97-92; and Dalby Shirley, 97-93, all for Tatsuyoshi. All three judges were from the United States.

Tatsuyoshi, the happy-go-lucky bad boy of Japanese boxing, is 7-0-1 (7); Richardson 29-5 (4).

"It was a bad night for Greg," said Randy Goldich, Richardson's manager. "Tatsuyoshi is a good young champ."

(9-19-91)

Joe Koizumi



Matlala was in la-la land

Dave McAuley KO 10 Jacob Matlala,

Belfast, Northern Ireland—Irish eyes were smiling as IBF flyweight champion McAuley, 111, needed all his class and guile to defeat South Africa's Matlala, 109¾.

McAuley marched to the ring to the thunderous applause of 1,500 fans at the Maysfield Leisure Centre. After the obligatory rendition of "Danny Boy," referee Randy Neumann called the fighters to the ring. The 4'9" Matlala looked relaxed, but he started tentatively, allowing the champion to utilize his seven-inch height advantage by boxing from a distance.

Matlala began applying pressure in the second round, and the fighters played matador and bull over most of the first half of the bout. Matlala concentrated his attack on McAuley's body, and the champion responded with jabs and one-twos.

In the sixth, McAuley seemed to lose concentration, and Matlala, 33-9-1 (17), continued to punch to the body. McAuley, 18-2-2 (8), rebounded in the seventh, and began to zero in with sharp hooks. The fateful round saw McAuley jab and then, late in the round, strike suddenly with a cross. Matlala, having suffered the first knockdown of his career, rose to his feet, but Neumann had already waved the bout over. The time of the stoppage was 2:22. After nine rounds, the scores were 90-81 (Dan O'Neil), 89-83 (Roy Francis), and, oddly, 86-86 (Dave Parris).

It was McAuley's fifth defense. He will next engage in a rematch with Colombia's Rodolfo Blanco, whom he decisioned, despite suffering four knockdowns, in September 1990.

(9-7-91)

David Kelly

Vinny Pazienza KO 12 Gilbert Dele,

Providence, Rhode Island—There should be a sign posted in front of the Providence Civic Center for all future Pazienza opponents: ENTER AT OWN RISK: NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST ITEMS (I.E. TITLE BELTS).

Energized by his loyal Pazmaniacs, Pazienza, 154, Cranston, took home another piece of hardware for the mantle by dismantling Dele, 154, Reims, France, and capturing the WBA junior middleweight title.

Pazienza, 31-5 (24), and 10-0 in his home state, slugged it out early with the heavy-handed Dele, 29-1-1 (19). The Frenchman landed some stunning right hands, but Pazienza was able to shake them off and respond with flurries.

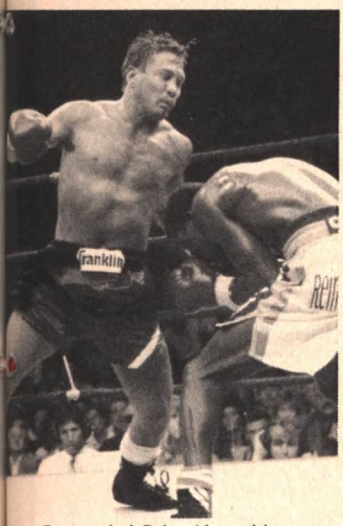
"I knew they thought I was just a lightweight," said Pazienza, a former IBF 135-pound champion. "But I wanted to show him I was stronger than him."

From the fifth round on, Paz settled into a boxing routine that slowly began to wear out Dele. Two left hooks had Dele reeling in round nine, but he remained standing at the bell. The end came at 2:10 of the 12th, after Dele absorbed a hook to the eye and turned his back on Pazienza. At the time of the stoppage, Jesus Celis (107-104) and Guy Jutras (107-102) had Pazienza winning. Charles Williams (106-106) had it even.

"I went into this fight facing a do-or-die situation," Pazienza said. "I didn't know where I could turn if I lost. It was a career fight for me, like it always is. Now, I feel like I'm finally going to get the respect I deserve as a fighter."

(10-1-91)

Robert Cassidy



Paz attacked Dele without delay

Maurice Blocker W 12 Glenwood Brown,

Atlantic City, New Jersey—The similarities in name, style, and appearance are there, but ultimately, Glenwood Brown, 147, Plainfield, could not do to Blocker, 147, Washington, D.C., what Simon Brown had done. In an exciting bout, Blocker became a two-time welterweight champion by earning a 12-round split decision and the vacant IBF title.

Blocker's reign as WBC king had been brief, ending by knockout loss to best friend and then-IBF titlist Simon Brown in a thrilling unification bout earlier this year. Brown immediately renounced his IBF belt due to, depending on whom you choose to believe, the organization's policies regarding South Africa, or Don King's ugly feud with IBF president Bob Lee. That put Glenwood, who, as mandatory challenger, had stepped aside to allow the Simon-Blocker fight, in line for the vacant title.

When the politics stopped and the fighting started, Brown and Blocker presented a genuine crowd-pleaser. Brown, 34-2 (25), nothing special as a technician, displayed vigor and enthusiasm. He attempted to deal with Blocker's considerable height and reach advantages (5½ inches and four inches, respectively) by hurling not only his punches at Blocker, but his body, too.

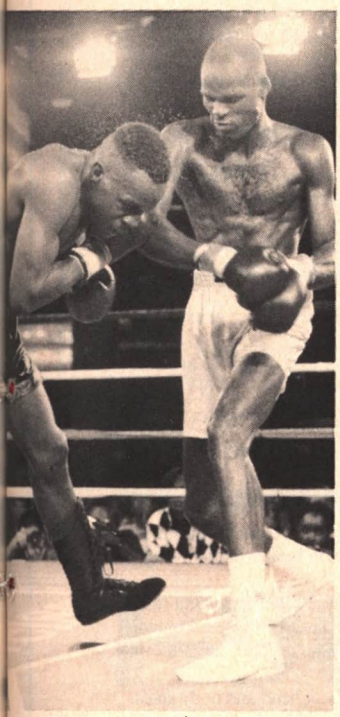
Blocker exhibited grace under pressure. He not only slipped Brown's roundhouse swings, but made him pay with crisp, well-placed counters. Only Blocker's conspicuous lack of power and hesitant forward gear allowed the bout to go to the judges.

"I was afraid," Blocker said of Rocky Castellani's preposterous 115-114 score for Brown. "I was hoping I didn't count my blessings too soon."

He didn't. Lynn Carter (117-111) and John Stewart (118-111) both scored for Blocker, 33-2 (18), who clearly deserved the verdict.

(10-4-91)

J.R. Jowett



Blocker defeated this Brown

Welcome Ncita W 12 Baby Sugar Rojas,

Sun City, South Africa—In what is hopefully a sign of things to come, Ncita made history by becoming the first South African to participate in an IBF title bout in his native land. The last world title fight held in South Africa came five years ago, when Brian Mitchell won the WBA junior lightweight title in Sun City.

Ncita successfully defended the IBF junior featherweight title with a 12-round split decision over gutsy Colombian challenger Rojas. But a disappointing crowd of only 3,500 witnessed the event at the Superbowl. In February, Ncita had earned a disputed split decision over Rojas in St. Vincent, Italy.

The rematch was fast and fierce, with both combatants guilty of illegal tactics. In round two, former 115-pound world champion Rojas, 34-4-1 (22), appeared to deck Ncita with a straight right, but referee Rudy Battle ruled it a push.

Trailing after five rounds, Ncita, 30-0 (14), started to vary his attack. Rather than slug with the challanger, he employed lateral movement and began to outbox his opponent. Rojas swung wildly and rarely connected. The champion's change in tactics worked. Eugene Grant and Ernest Green both scored 115-113 for Ncita. Richard Murray, however, saw Rojas a winner by 119-109. All three judges were from the United States.

"It was a very hard fight," Ncita's manager, Mzimasi Mnguni, said. "We were well-prepared for it mentally and physically."

Mnguni also said his fighter had "something to prove" by fighting Rojas at his own game and "beating him so convincingly."

(9-29-91)

Ron Jackson

Pernell Whitaker W 12 Jorge Paez,

Reno, Nevada—In what might have been his last fight at 135 pounds, undisputed lightweight champion Whitaker defeated former IBF featherweight champion Paez, dominating 12 exciting rounds at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center.

Those who expected a safety-first performance from Whitaker, who has spoken openly of a fight against WBC 140-pound champion Julio Cesar Chavez next year, were pleasantly surprised as he opted to stand flat-footed for much of the bout. From the opening bell, Whitaker, 135, Norfolk, Virginia, worked his right jab overtime, but also unloaded power shots to both the body and head of Paez, 135, Mexicali, Mexico. When Paez attempted to rush forward with a two-fisted assault, Whitaker frequently caught him with uppercuts under the chin, one of which, in the seventh round, actually lifted Paez off his feet.

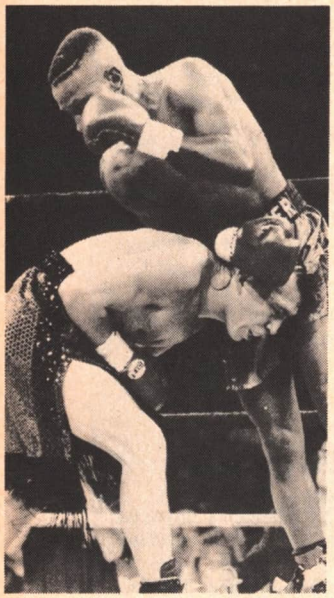
Cut over the right eye by an accidental butt ending the sixth, Paez fought gamely in the late rounds.

With blood streaming down his face, he shook off blows that would have dropped most lightweights. In the final round, Paez attempted the do-or-die charge that had previously worked against Calvin Grove and Tracy Spann, only to have a point deducted for landing a punch to the back of Whitaker's head.

Keith MacDonald (116-110), Patricia Jarman (115-112), and Chuck Giampa (115-111) all scored for Whitaker, 27-1 (13). Paez, who will remain at lightweight, fell to 39-4-4 (26).

(10-5-91)

Steven R. Nicolaisen



Whitaker was a pain in the neck

Chris Eubank KO 12 Michael Watson,

London, England—A boxing showpiece featuring exhilarating action turned, within moments of its conclusion, into a heartbreaking tragedy. As Eubank basked in the glory of victory, Watson lay on the canvas, engaged in a battle which had far more at stake than any title belt or million-dollar purse. The battle was for his life.

The action was extraordinary inside the ropes, containing an abundance of will, resilience, and courage, as both fighters summoned their spirit to the very limit. The aftermath, however, reduced the 18,000 in attendance at White Hart Lane to counting the cost and concluding that surely the price was too high.

Watson, 166, Islington, was driven by a burning desire that he had been cheated out of a decision he believed was his. (Three months earlier, Eubank had been awarded a controversial decision over Watson). He approached this fight in a manner that would not leave doubts. His non-stop aggression was relentless. But Eubank's counterpunches carried more power. Every round was close, with neither fighter gaining a clear edge.

Brighton's Eubank, 167, mounted a thunderous assault at the start of round 11. After the barrage, Watson sensed his foe's weariness and rallied with his own punches. A left-right combination followed by another thudding right sent Eubank to the floor for the first time in his career.

As Watson moved in to finish the job, Eubank unloaded with a fierce right uppercut that dropped Watson. The bell sounded before further damage could be inflicted, but the effect of that single punch was crippling.

Watson was barely able to stand as the 12th began. Eubank smelled victory, and a swarming attack prompted referee Roy Francis to intervene 29 seconds into the round. After 11 rounds, Watson was ahead on all three cards.

After losing consciousness, Watson was rushed to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Subsequent surgery failed to pull him out of a coma. (See "Round One" on page 8).

(9-21-91)

Brian Doogan

Jeff Harding W 12 Dennis Andries,

London, England—This three-fight series may not rank with the Ali-Frazier trilogy or the Robinson-LaMotta classics. And no one has ever accused Harding or Andries of being great ring technicians. But when it comes to fighting, at least in the crudest sense of the word, they sure excel.

In yet another gruelling battle, Harding regained the WBC light heavyweight title with a majority decision at the Hammersmith Odeon. The scores were 114-114, 115-114, and 115-113.

"This fight was just as hard as the first two," Harding said. "He's a warrior. He's a freak for his age. I knew it would be a war. I'm just happy to have the title back."

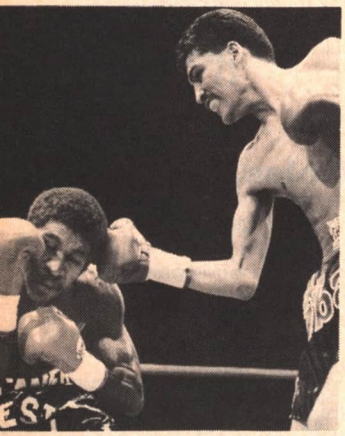
As he did in their first bout two years ago, Andries, 175, Detroit, Michigan, took command early. It even appeared that he was about to stop Harding in the first round. But the Aussie, whose courage and determination make up for a severe lack of talent, didn't give up.

Harding, 173, Melbourne, Australia, responded to Andries' wide, looping punches with short, hard blows to the head and body. Despite being cut around both eyes, Harding, 21-1 (16), pursued Andries and had him in serious trouble in the final round.

Andries, 40-9-2 (24), had hoped a win would launch him into a unification bout with WBA champion and former stablemate Thomas Hearns.

"I'm disappointed," said the 38-year-old former champion. "I've got to talk to my manager [Kronk's Emanuel Steward] and see where we go from here."

(9-11-91)



Perez barely outpointed Mendoza

Raul Perez W 12 Luis Mendoza,

Inglewood, California—The reputation of the Great Western Forum as the graveyard of champions continues unabated, with WBA junior featherweight champion Mendoza the latest victim to suffer the curse. Mendoza, 121½, Colombia, now fighting out of Los Angeles, lost a split decision to former bantamweight champion Perez.

Perez, 121¾, Tijuana, Mexico, looked a lot sharper than he did in losing the WBC bantamweight title to Greg Richardson in February. He fully deserved the victory and improved to 48-2-1 (30). Mendoza and his handful of supporters accepted the inevitable with glum silence. The Colombian dropped to 31-3-2 (18). It was his fifth defense.

Perez won the first two rounds by starting quickly with double jabs and a mix of head and body shots. But Mendoza, an excellent counterpuncher, began applying pressure in the third. He rallied strongly in the seventh round, punishing the Mexican to the body with crisp counters. But even as Mendoza gained more strength, stinging Perez with uppercuts, the challenger fought back furiously.

In the stretch, the fighters engaged in toe-to-toe exchanges and remained competitive until the final bell. Scoring: Larry Rozadilla, 115-114 Perez, Harmodio Cedeno, 116-114 Perez, and Stuart Winston, 117-111 Mendoza.

The referee was Lou Moret.

In the seven world title fights at the Forum over the past 11 months, six champions have been dethroned. The lone exception was Richardson, who was extremely fortunate to get a decision over Victor Rabanales.

(10-7-91)

Michael Hepworth ■

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2) Joe Frazier
3) George Foreman
4) Mike Tyson

What was Rocky Marciano's professional record?
1) 49-0
2) 27-4
3) 87-0
4) 56-9

The movie based on the life of Jake LaMotta is:
1) Somebody Up There Likes Me
2) Rocky
3) Raging Bull
4) The Great White Hope

Which city hosted the Mike Tyson vs. Buster Douglas fight?
1) Tokyo
2) Las Vegas
3) Atlantic City
4) London

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Worldwide Ratings

WBC
as of August

WBA
as of September

IBF
as of October

HEAVYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Evander Holyfield (USA)	C	C	C
Mike Tyson (USA)	1	1	5
Razor Ruddock (CAN)	2	6	6
Riddick Bowe (USA)	3	5	3
George Foreman (USA)	4	4	1
Tim Witherspoon (USA)	5	7	7
Lennox Lewis (GB)	6	3	4
Michael Moorer (USA)	7	10	8
Phil Jackson (USA)	8	-	-
Larry Holmes (USA)	9	-	-
Alex Stewart (JAM)	10	-	-
Pierre Coetzer (SA)	-	2	2
Tommy Morrison (USA)	11	8	12
Tony Tucker (USA)	-	9	9
Carl Williams (USA)	16	-	10

CRUISERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Anaclet Wamba (FRA)	C	-	-
Jeff Lampkin (USA)	1	-	-
Massimiliano Duran (ITA)	2	-	11
Johnny Nelson (GB)	3	5	6
Derek Angol (GB)	4	3	7
Carlos DeLeon (PR)	5	-	-
Mike Hunter (USA)	6	7	3
Taoufik Belbouli (FRA)	7	1	-
Alfred Cole (USA)	8	4	1
James Warring (USA)	9	-	C
Craig Peterson (AUSTRL)	10	-	-
Bobby Czyz (USA)	-	C	-
Robert Daniels (USA)	11	2	-
Phil Jackson (USA)	-	6	-
Orlin Norris (USA)	-	8	2
Akim Tafer (FRA)	18	9	-
Bash Ali (USA)	24	10	-
Iby Zimmerman (CAU)	-	-	4
Richard Mason (USA)	12	-	5
James Pritchard (USA)	-	-	8
Dwight Qawi (USA)	-	-	9
Don Lalonde (CAN)	-	-	10

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Dennis Andries (GB)	C	-	12
Jeff Harding (AUSTRL)	1	6	-
Virgil Hill (USA)	2	3	3
David Vedder (USA)	3	-	-
Frank Tate (USA)	4	-	1
Isaias Lucero (MEX)	5	4	4
Graciano Rocchigiani (GER)	6	2	2
Guy Waters (AUSTRL)	7	-	-
Andrew Maynard (USA)	8	1	8
Esteban Pizarro (PR)	9	7	7
Crawford Ashley (GB)	10	11	-
Thomas Hearns (USA)	-	C	-
Anthony Hembrick (USA)	11	5	5
Ed Mack (USA)	-	8	-
Fabrice Tiozzo (FRA)	13	9	-
Wan Sub Lee (KOR)	28	10	-
Charles Williams (USA)	-	-	C
Freddy Delgado (PR)	16	-	6
Iran Barkley (USA)	-	-	9
Mwehu Beya (ITA)	-	-	10

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Mauro Galvano (ITA)	C	-	-
Christophe Tiozzo (FRA)	1	4	7
Lindell Holmes (USA)	2	6	3
Tony Thornton (USA)	3	2	2
Randall Yonker (USA)	4	7	-
James Cook (GB)	5	1	9
Ron Essett (USA)	6	5	8
Dan Schommer (USA)	7	-	-
Juan Carlos Gimenez (PAR)	8	-	5
Tarmo Uusivirta (FIN)	9	3	-
Frank Nicotra (FRA)	10	9	12
Victor Cordoba (PAN)	-	C	-
Vicenzo Nardiello (ITA)	15	8	-
Larry Musgrove (USA)	15	10	-
Darrin Van Horn (USA)	-	-	C
Michael Nunn (USA)	-	-	1
John Jarvis (USA)	23	-	4
Thulani Malinga (SA)	-	-	6
Nelson Alves (GER)	17	-	10

MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Julian Jackson (USA)	C	-	-
Dennis Milton (USA)	1	-	-
Michael Nunn (USA)	2	4	-
Sumbu Kalambay (ITA)	3	3	3
Herol Graham (GB)	4	12	4
Reggie Johnson (USA)	5	2	1
Michael Watson (GB)	6	-	-
Steve Collins (USA)	7	1	2
Lamar Parks (USA)	8	6	5
Francesco Dell'Aquila (ITA)	9	5	6
Nigel Benn (GB)	10	8	-
Mike McCallum (JAM)	-	C	-
Thomas Tate (USA)	27	7	8
Joe Gatti (USA)	-	9	-
Ulysses Boulware (USA)	-	10	-
James Toney (USA)	-	-	C
Gerald McClellan (USA)	16	-	7
Kid Milo (GB)	-	-	9
Ruben Cabral (ARG)	24	-	10

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Terry Norris (USA)	C	-	-
Jorge Castro (ARG)	1	2	1
Jorge Vaca (MEX)	2	3	3
Aaron Davis (USA)	3	1	2
Troy Waters (AUSTRL)	4	-	-
Julio Cesar Vasquez (ARG)	5	8	-
Mark Breland (USA)	6	-	-
Carl Daniels (USA)	7	-	-
Wally Swift (GB)	8	12	8
Yung Kil Chung (KOR)	9	6	-
Quincy Taylor (USA)	10	-	10
Gilbert Dele (FRA)	-	C	7
Vinny Pazienza (USA)	22	4	-
Jun Sok Hwang (KOR)	-	5	-
Vernon Phillips (USA)	-	7	12
Gregory Clark (SA)	-	9	-
Jean Claude Fontana (FRA)	-	10	-
Gianfranco Rosi (ITA)	-	-	C
Glenn Wolfe (USA)	12	-	4
Gilbert Baptist (USA)	-	12	5
Roy Jones (USA)	-	-	6
Vincent Pettway (USA)	-	-	9

WELTERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Simon Brown (USA)	C	-	-
Buddy McGirt (USA)	1	2	1
Maurice Blocker (USA)	2	7	3
Glenwood Brown (USA)	3	3	2
Genaro Leon (MEX)	4	9	7
Patrizio Oliva (ITA)	5	8	4
Marlon Starling (USA)	6	-	-
Luis Garcia (VEN)	7	4	6
Hiroyuki Yoshino (JAP)	8	10	-
Santos Cardona (PR)	9	-	-
Vernon Phillips (USA)	10	-	-
Meldrick Taylor (USA)	-	C	-
Crisanto Espana (VEN)	11	1	8
Carl Daniels (USA)	-	5	5
Jong Oh Park (KOR)	12	6	-
Stephan Johnson (USA)	-	-	9
David Gonzalez (USA)	13	-	10

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Julio Cesar Chavez (MEX)	C	-	-
Angel Hernandez (PR)	1	2	-
Juan M. Coggi (ARG)	2	3	-
Pat Barrett (GB)	3	5	6
Roger Mayweather (USA)	4	4	2

Alberto Cortes (ARG)	5	-	-
Harold Brazier (USA)	6	-	8
Loreto Garza (USA)	7	8	11
Rodney Moore (USA)	8	7	5
Terrence Ali (USA)	9	6	3
Lonnie Smith (USA)	10	-	-
Edwin Rosario (PR)	-	C	-
Akinobu Hiranaka (JAP)	-	1	-
Pyung Sup Kim (KOR)	22	9	-
Ignacio Bernal (COL)	-	10	-
Rafael Pineda (COL)	12	-	1
Charles Murray (USA)	16	-	4
Oba Carr (USA)	23	-	7
Andy Holligan (GB)	-	-	9
Greg Haugen (USA)	11	-	10

LIGHTWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Pernell Whitaker (USA)	C	C	C
Chil Sung Chun (KOR)	1	1	-
Darryll Tyson (USA)	2	2	4
Jorge Paez (MEX)	3	5	1
Freddie Pendleton (USA)	4	-	2
Sharmba Mitchell (USA)	5	8	7
Poli Diaz (SPA)	6	4	10
Carl Crook (GB)	7	-	11
Miguel Gonzalez (MEX)	8	10	9
Shane Knox (AUSTRL)	9	-	8
Tracy Spann (USA)	10	6	3
Antonio Esparragoza (VEN)	-	3	-
Iwao Otomo (JAP)	17	7	-
Omar Flores (MEX)	13	9	-
Eduardo Molina (COL)	19	-	5
Miguel Julio (COL)	-	-	6

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Azumah Nelson (GHA)	C	-	-
Jeff Fenech (AUSTRL)	1	2	-
John-John Molina (PR)	2	6	1
Tyrone Downes (TRIN)	3	-	-
Genaro Hernandez (USA)	4	1	8
Daniel Londas (FRA)	5	3	5
Bernard Taylor (USA)	6	-	6
Pedro Gutierrez (ARG)	7	-	-
Regilio Tuur (HOL)	8	8	12
Marcos Guevara (VEN)	9	10	-
Takeyuki Akagi (JAP)	10	7	-
Joey Gamache (USA)	-	C	-
Pierre Lorcy (FRA)	20	4	-
Tony Lopez (USA)	-	5	-
Eugene Speed (USA)	19	9	-
Brian Mitchell (SA)	-	-	C
Fernando Caicedo (COL)	24	-	2
Tony Lopez (USA)	-	-	3
Coco Ramirez (MEX)	21	-	4
Calvin Grove (USA)	15	-	7
Hector Lizarraga (USA)	-	-	9
Jerry Ngobeni (SA)	-	-	10

FEATHERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Marcos Villasana (MEX)	C	-	-
Paul Hodkinson (GB)	1	3	11
Ricardo Cepeda (USA)	2	6	12
Tom Johnson (USA)	3	2	1
Ever Beleno (COL)	4	7	-
Miguel Francia (ARG)	5	-	-
Kevin Kelley (USA)	6	5	10
Fabrice Benichou (FRA)	7	8	-
Antonio Esparragoza (VEN)	8	-	-
Seiji Asakawa (JAP)	9	10	-
Jose Ramos (DR)	10	-	-
Yung Kyun Park (KOR)	-	C	-
Jackie Gunguluza (SA)	-	1	8
Eloy Rojas (VEN)	11	4	9
Colin McMillan (GB)	26	9	-
Manuel Medina (MEX)	-	-	C
November Ntshingila (SA)	-	-	2
Troy Dorsey (USA)	21	-	3
Jose Rodriguez (PR)	-	-	4
James Leija (USA)	18	-	5
Cedric Mingo (USA)	-	-	6
Lupe Gutierrez (USA)	17	-	7

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Daniel Zaragoza (MEX)	C	-	-
Tracy Patterson (USA)	1	1	1
Kiyoshi Hatanaka (JAP)	2	8	-
Jesus Salud (USA)	3	-	7
Arcelio Diaz (COL)	4	-	2
Pedro Decima (ARG)	5	-	5
Chun Huh (KOR)	6	-	-
Paul Banke (USA)	7	-	-
Freddy Cruz (DR)	8	2	-
Ki Jun Lee (KOR)	9	-	-
Jae Won Choi (KOR)	10	7	-
Luis Mendoza (COL)	-	C	-
Jemal Hinton (USA)	12	3	9
Ramon Guzman (VEN)	-	4	6
Raul Perez (MEX)	-	5	-
Porfirio Hernandez (MEX)	-	6	-
Noree Jockygym (THAI)	19	9	-
Juan Rodriguez (COL)	27	10	-
Welcome Ncita (SA)	-	-	C
Richard Duran (USA)	-	-	3
Baby Rojas (USA)	-	-	4
Kennedy McKinney (USA)	24	11	8
Hurley Snead (USA)	-	-	10

BANTAMWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Greg Richardson (USA)	C	9	-
Pepillo Valdez (MEX)	1	-	11
Raul Perez (MEX)	2	-	10
Victor Rabanales (MEX)	3	-	-
Chang Kyun Oh (KOR)	4	-	-
Yong Hoon Lee (KOR)	5	3	-
Joichiro Tatsuyoshi (JAP)	6	-	-
Gerardo Martinez (USA)	7	-	-
Hector Acero (DR)	8	6	-
Thierry Jacob (FRA)	9	8	2
Eliecer Julio (COL)	10	2	-
Luisito Espinosa (PHIL)	-	C	-
Israel Contreras (VEN)	-	1	1
Junior Jones (USA)	13	4	5
Yun Chun Min (KOR)	11	5	-
Eddie Cook (USA)	19	7	12
Luis Malave (VEN)	-	10	-
Orlando Canizales (USA)	-	-	C
Francisco Alvarez (COL)	12	-	3
Juvenal Berrio (COL)	-	-	4
Billy Hardy (GB)	15	-	6
Dio Andujar (USA)	15	-	7
Kiyoshi Hatanaka (JAP)	-	-	8
Harold Mestre (COL)	-	12	9

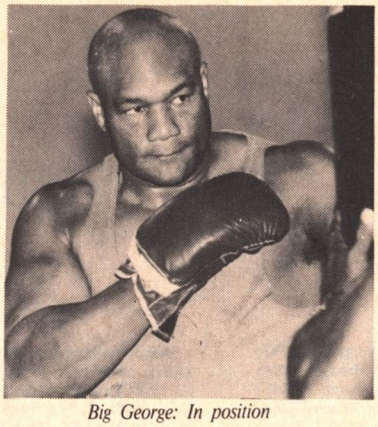
JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Sung Kil Moon (KOR)	C	-	-
Johnny Tapia (USA)	1	8	3
Katsuya Onizuka (JAP)	2	1	9
Armando Castro (MEX)	3	3	-
Thalerngsak Sithbaobay (THAI)	4	2	-
Armando Salazar (MEX)	5	-	12
Nana Konadu (GHA)	6	-	-
Kenji Matsumura (JAP)	7	6	-
Torsak Pongsupa (THAI)	8	-	-
Luiz Ferreira (BRA)	9	-	5
Carlos Mercado (COL)	10	-	1
Khaosai Galaxy (THAI)	-	C	-
Hyun Chul Lee (KOR)	-	4	-
David Griman (VEN)	22	5	-
Hugo Soto (ARG)	-	7	-
Rey Paciones (PHIL)	13	9	-
Guillermo Salcedo (COL)	-	10	-
Robert Quiroga (USA)	-	-	C
Ole Kieatwonway (THAI)	-	-	2
Joel Luna (MEX)	-	-	4
Satoshi Shingaki (JAP)	-	-	6
Vincenzo Belcastro (ITA)	-	-	7
Chatohai Tanieul (THAI)	-	-	8
Shunichi Nakajima (JAP)	-	-	10

FLYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Muangchai Kittikasem (THAI)	C	-	-
Sot Chitalada (THAI)	1	-	10
Isaias Zamudio (USA)	2	-	6
Jung Koo Chang (KOR)	3	-	-
Yun Un Chin (KOR)	4	4	-
Alberto Jimenez (MEX)	5	-	-
Jonathan Penalosa (PHIL)	6	2	-
Yuri Arbachakov (USSR)	7	8	8
Francisco Tejedor (COL)	8	-	-
Richard Clarke (JAM)	9	-	3
Al Kotey (GHA)	10	-	7
Yong Kang Kim (KOR)	-	C	-
Rodolfo Blanco (COL)	11	1	1
Kotaro Hayashi (JAP)	20	3	-
Alvaro Mercado (COL)	-	5	-
Julio Gudino (PAN)	19	6	-
Leo Gamez (VEN)	-	7	-
Torsak Osotsapha (THAI)	-	9	-
Scotty Olson (USA)	-	10	9
Dave McAuley (IRE)	-	-	C
Tongchai Kittikasem (THAI)	-	-	2
Dodi Penalosa (PHIL)	14	-	4
Pichit Sitbangprachan (THAI)	-	-	5

LIGHT FLYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Humberto Gonzalez (MEX)	C	-	-
Domingo Sosa (DR)	1	11	1
Rolando Pascua (PHIL)	2	10	3
Melchor Cob Castro (MEX)	3	7	6
Hiroki Ioka (JAP)	4	1	-
Nam Hoon Cha (KOR)	5	2	-
Gerry Penalosa (PHIL)	6	9	-
Jeung Keun Lim (KOR)	7	-	-
Ismael Rodriguez (MEX)	8	-	-
Antonio Perez (MEX)	9	-	-
Alejandro Montiel (MEX)	10	-	-
Myung Woo Yuh (KOR)	-	C	-
Benedicto Murillo (PAN)	18	3	-
Juan A. Torres (PAN)	29	4	8
Jacob Matlala (SA)	-	5	12
Robinson Cuesta (PAN)	22	6	2
Kajkong Danphoothai (THAI)	-	8	-
Michael Carbajal (USA)	-	-	C
Boy Lucas (PHIL)	-	-	4
Leon Salazar (PAN)	11	-	5
Azadin Anhar (INDO)	-	-	7
Manny Melchor (RP)	-	-	9
Salvador Fanni (ITA)	-	-	10

STRAWWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Ricardo Lopez (MEX)	C	-	-
Kyung Yung Lee (KOR)	1	-	-
Hideyuki Ohashi (JAP)	2	3	-
Rocky Lim (JAP)	3	5	3
Ala Villamor (PHIL)	4	9	2
Chana Porpaoin (THAI)	5	2	-
Bong Jun Kim (KOR)	6	1	-
Pretty Boy Lucas (PHIL)	7	7	-
Alfredo Xeque (MEX)	8	-	5
Danny Nunez (DR)	9	11	-
Kwang Soo Oh (KOR)	10	-	-
Hi Yong Choi (KOR)	-	C	-
Sung Woo Lee (KOR)	11	4	-
Carlos Murillo (PAN)	21	6	7
Carlos Rodriguez (VEN)	27	8	8
Far-Lan Lookmingkwan (THAI)	-	-	C
Felix Naranjo (COL)	-	-	1
Andy Tabanas (PHIL)	14	10	4
Said Iskandar (INDO)	25	-	6
Abdi Pohan (INDO)	-	-	9
Husni Ray (INDO)	24	-	10

Looking Ahead



Big George: In position

By Jeff Ryan

Sweet Pea: Moving up?

Barber: Ready for Hembrick

SORTING IT OUT, SORT OF

Let's assume for a moment that a Mike Tyson win over Evander Holyfield in a Las Vegas ring is followed by a Tyson defeat in an Indiana courtroom. What happens next? F-R-A-G-M-E-N-T-A-T-I-O-N. A heavyweight king in prison would create more openings than the Washington Redskins offensive line. We'd go right back to the days of three different champions. Back to the days of praying that some Tysonesque destroyer comes along to simplify things again.

Here's one man's speculation on what might occur:

First on new champ Tyson's agenda—even before his trial—would probably be a denouncing of Don King's least-favorite sanctioning body, the IBF. The widespread speculation is that Tyson, with King's urging, would be so anxious to give the IBF back its belt that he might Federal Express it.

George Foreman likes the sound of this because, as the IBF's top contender, he would face second-ranked Pierre Coetzer for the vacant crown. And the ever-cautious Foreman would indeed accept Coetzer as a foe, primarily because the South African is not a big puncher. Like Foreman, big bully Coetzer has picked on his share of cruiserweights. Unlike Foreman, he's lost to two of them, Bernard Benton and Ossie Ocasio.

If Tyson is convicted and imprisoned, he'd be stripped of his other two crowns. In that case, look for the vacant WBC title to be contested in a clash between Razor Ruddock and Riddick Bowe. There are a couple of possibilities for the WBA title. If a defeated Holyfield falls no further than fifth in the top 12, he and '88 Olympic gold medalist Lennox Lewis would be the two highest-ranked available contenders. If Holyfield would rather take some time off to recuperate and regroup, Lewis would probably face Tim Witherspoon instead.

Should Tyson, the division's Humpty Dumpty, fall off the wall (or in this case, go behind it for a long time), the heavyweight picture won't be sunnyside-up for a while. Things are going to get pretty scrambled, and the sorting process won't be over easy.

STAYING PUT?

Undisputed lightweight king Pernell Whitaker is ready to move to junior welterweight. Promoter Dan Duva and HBO reportedly want "Sweet Pea" to remain at 135 pounds a bit longer. Who gets their way will probably depend on the weight climbs of two *other* fighters, junior lightweights Jeff Fenech and Joey Gamache. If Whitaker can be assured of meeting either one early in '92, he'll hang around. If not, the alternatives, unstimulating mandatory defenses against Chil Sung Chun, Darryll Tyson, or Freddie Pendleton, will send him fleeing north.

LISTEN UP

Kronk boss **Emanuel Steward** is looking to step up the competition for his 175-pounder, **Leeonzer Barber**. Steward says he's seeking **Anthony Hembrick** or **Andrew Maynard** as opponents, but Maynard is the WBA's top-rated 175-pounder, and would never risk a guaranteed title shot. Hembrick, on the other hand, is receptive to a try at Barber, according to his manager, **Arnie Rosenthal** . . . Look for Barber's gymmate, former three-time light heavyweight titlist **Dennis Andries**, to challenge WBC cruiserweight titlist **Anaclet Wamba** in January. ■

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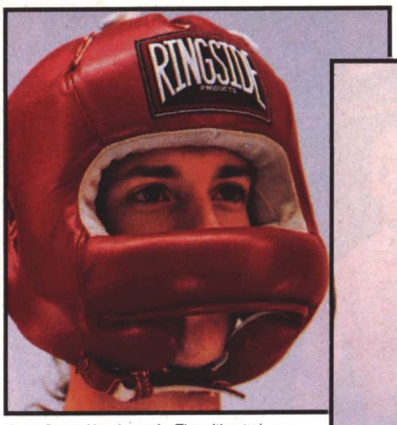
RINGSIDE



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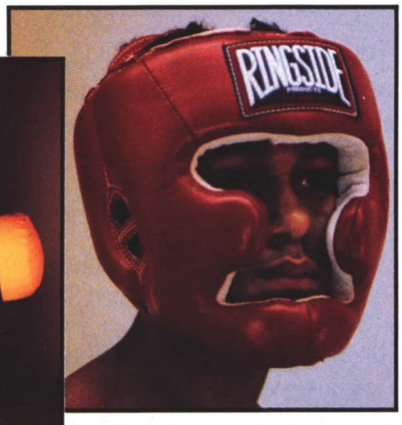

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